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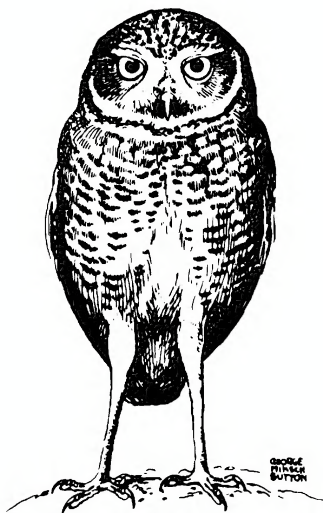
The Nebraska Bird Review

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1978 TREASURER'S REPORT

		Cash	Invest- ments	Cash in Other Years	Current Account	Total Assets
Balance 1 January 1978		935.41	3,614.79	581.26		3,968.94
RECEIPTS						
Member-	108 Active	\$5.00	540.00			
ships	33 Family Active	7.00	231.00			
	20 Sustaining	7.00	140.00			
	6 Family					
	Sustaining	9.00	54.00			
	1 Student	3.00	3.00			
	Past due paid		9.00		977.00	
Subscrip-	11 Direct	\$5.00	55.00			
tions	25 Agency	4.50	112.50			
	2 Foreign		9.25			
	Past due paid		20.00		196.75	
Miscel-	Field Record cards		12.55			
aneous	Check-lists		48.25			
	Review Copies		273.25			
	Slides and misc.		4.50			
	Interest Eared		215.72	33.14	587.41	
	Total receipts	1,728.02		33.14	1,761.16	
EXPENSES						
Review	Printing	953.47		444.08		
	Postage	65.00			1,462.55	
	(Includes Newsletter)					
Officers'	R. G. Cortelyou	101.99				
expen-	A. W. Madison	15.14				
ditures	Wm. Lemburg	18.21			135.34	
Miscel-	Newsletter	50.47		5.85		
aneous	Meeting (net)	67.18				
	Printing (Cards)	24.52			148.02	
	Total expenses	1,295.98		449.93	1,745.91	
	Current operations					15.25
Donations		7.00				7.00
	Prepaid items used above	(405.50)		(405.50)		
	1077 Accounts Payable paid	(175.76)		(175.76)		
	1979 Memberships prepaid	72.00		72.00		
	1979 Subscriptions prepaid	93.55		93.55		
Balance 31 December 1978		958.74	3,647.93	615.48		3,991.19

The Breeding Birds of Nebraska

Paul A. Johnsgard

This brief annotated list of Nebraska's breeding birds is the direct outgrowth of the work involved in the preparation of a forthcoming book titled "The Birds of the Great Plains," which will include range maps for all species except extinct or extirpated ones, and will also provide information on breeding habitat, nest location, clutch size, incubation period, and breeding biology. The purpose of the present compilation is to provide a convenient summary for Nebraska alone, amplifying some of the more general statements of that book, and pointing out uncertain or interesting situations needing further attention from field ornithologists. It includes 201 species of birds believed to currently breed or have bred in the state, as well as 14 extinct or apparently extirpated species, 5 unsuccessfully introduced species, and 13 hypothetical breeders.

The only recent summary of Nebraska's bird fauna (Rapp et al., 1958) does not always provide a clear distinction between breeding and non-breeding species, and additionally not only accepts some old statements of breeding that now appear to have been unwarranted, but also the most recent findings are of course excluded. (The *supplement through 1970* did not attempt to bring up to date the comments on the breeding status made in the 1958 edition.)

The present paper includes state and regional literature through the March 1978 issue, Volume 46, of *Nebraska Bird Review*, and the 1977 volume of *American Birds*, plus unpublished information on the 1978 breeding season that became available to me through various sources. The annual breeding bird survey data published in *Nebraska Bird Review* was surveyed and summarized through 1977 for me by Christi Nordeen as a special undergraduate project, and Dr. Calvin Cink kindly provided me with still-unpublished information on the breeding birds of Dundy County. The papers by Short (1961, 1965a) have proven especially valuable in estimating western range limits for a number of eastern species. Other useful county summaries are those for Gage County (Fiala, 1970), and Lincoln County (Tout, 1947), and Rosche (1977) has provided a very helpful summary for the northwestern counties. Mr. Rosche has also provided me with a number of unpublished records.

Current Breeders

Horned Grebe (*Podiceps auritus*). Apparently accidental. Has reportedly bred in Valentine County (Swenk, 1933) but the closest area of regular breeding is north-central South Dakota.

Eared Grebe (*Podiceps nigricollis*). A fairly common breeder in western and northern Nebraska, including most of the area north of the Platte River. Nebraska represents the southeastern limit of breeding of this species in the Plains States.

Western Grebe (*Aechmophorus occidentalis*). Breeding occurs in western and northern Nebraska, primarily on the larger Sandhills marshes. This is the southeastern limit of breeding of this species in the Plains States.

Pied-billed Grebe (*Podilymbus podiceps*). Breeds locally throughout Nebraska, on ponds of varying sizes, but always those having heavy emergent vegetation.

Double-crested Cormorant (*Phalacrocorax auritus*). Breeds in colonies in several locations in the western half of the state, east to Cherry County and the vicinity of North Platte. There are scattered breeding records for Kansas, Oklahoma, and Texas, but Nebraska seems to be the southern limit of regular breeding in the Plains States.

Great Blue Heron (*Ardea herodias*). Breeds in colonies in various locations throughout the state, often nesting in association with Cormorants around reservoirs.

Green Heron (*Butorides striatus*). Breeds over most of Nebraska excepting the Panhandle and the western Sandhills.

Snowy Egret (*Egretta thula*). Accidental, with breeding records for Lancaster and Scotts Bluff counties (Rapp et al., 1958).

Black-crowned Night Heron (*Nycticorax nycticorax*). Breeds locally in suitable habitats throughout the state except perhaps the driest portions of western Nebraska.

Yellow-crowned Night Heron (*Nyctanassa violacea*). There is a single breeding record for Nebraska, from Sarpy County, in 1963 (*NBR* 32:9).

Least Bittern (*Ixobrychus exilis*). This species is apparently rare in Nebraska, judging from the few nesting records. It breeds locally in the eastern half of the state, and perhaps has its western limits in Garden County, where it has been seen during summer at Crescent Lake National Wildlife Refuge.

American Bittern (*Botaurus lentiginosus*). Breeds locally throughout the state in suitable habitats, with the Sandhills marshes providing the optimum habitat.

White-faced Ibis (*Plegadis chihi*). Accidental. There is a single 1904 breeding record for Clay County (Swenk, 1918). A few other records exist for the Plains States, but the species must be considered rare and erratic throughout the region.

Trumpeter Swan (*Olor buccinator*). A rare and local nester. Originally nested in the state, but extirpated and apparently absent until recolonization occurred in the late 1960's as a result of releases made in Lacreek National Wildlife Refuge, South Dakota. Initial successful breeding in the northern Sandhills (near Gordon) occurred in 1968, and there are now several records for Cherry and Sheridan counties, as well as reported breeding in Morrill County (Harold Burgess, pers. comm.) Peabody (1974) has documented the early years (to 1973) of Trumpeter Swan reproduction in the state. Birds have also been released and have reproduced at the William Mahon ranch, Dundy County, and the offspring might thus begin to colonize southwestern Nebraska.

Canada Goose (*Branta canadensis*). Breeds locally throughout the northern Sandhills and at Crescent Lake Refuge in Garden County, as a result of restocking efforts. Establishment of birds in eastern Nebraska (Lancaster County) has been attempted, but so far there has been little success.

Mallard (*Anas platyrhynchos*). Breeds locally throughout the state in suitable habitats.

Gadwall (*Anas strepera*). Breeds locally in Nebraska, primarily north of the Platte River and especially in the Sandhills. Breeds south to the Rainwater Basin of Clay and adjacent counties. There are relatively few breeding records for Kansas, so Nebraska represents the southernmost area of regular breeding in the Plains States.

Pintail (*Anas acuta*). Breeds locally throughout Nebraska in suitable habitats.

Green-winged Teal (*Anas crecca*). Breeds locally in Nebraska, but essentially limited to the northern half of the state and concentrated in the Sandhills. There seems to be no state breeding records from south of the Platte River, and only one Kansas record.

Blue-winged Teal (*Anas discors*). Breeds commonly in suitable habitats throughout the state, and probably the commonest breeding duck in the state.

Cinnamon Teal (*Anas cyanoptera*). Apparently a very rare breeder in the state, but confusion with the Blue-winged Teal makes the status of this species very difficult to estimate. The birds are occasionally present during summer at Crescent Lake Refuge, and there is a probable breeding record for the refuge.

American Wigeon (*Anas americana*). A local and generally uncommon breeder in Nebraska, apparently confined to the northwestern parts of the Sandhills (south and east to Garden and Cherry counties). Nebraska represents the southernmost area of breeding of this species in the Plains States.

Northern Shoveler (*Anas clypeata*). Breeds commonly to uncommonly in suitable habitats throughout Nebraska except for the southeastern corner.

Wood Duck (*Aix sponsa*). Breeding in Nebraska is primarily limited to the Missouri's forested valley and the lower portions of the Platte valley, probably west to about Kearney. This species has responded to management and the erection of nesting boxes, and seems to be gradually extending its range westwardly. Probable family groups have been seen as far west as Box Butte Reservoir, Dawes County, Victoria Springs, Custer County, and the Clear Creek marshes, Garden County (R. Rosche, pers. comm.)

Redhead (*Aythya americana*). Breeds locally in the Nebraska Sandhills (west to Garden County), and also in the Rainwater Basin. Except for a few Kansas nesting records, this represents the southernmost area of regular breeding in the Plains States.

Ring-necked Duck (*Aythya collaris*). A rare breeder in the Nebraska Sandhills (Crescent Lake and Valentine refuges). The nearest area of regular breeding is in northeastern South Dakota and adjoining eastern North Dakota.

Canvasback (*Aythya valisineria*). A local and rare breeder in the Nebraska Sandhills, which represents the southernmost area of regular breeding in the Plains States.

Lesser Scaup (*Aythya affinis*). An occasional breeder in the Nebraska Sandhills (Garden, Morrill, Cherry, and Brown counties), which represents the southernmost area of breeding in the Plains States.

Ruddy Duck (*Oxyura jamaicensis*). An uncommon and very local breeder in some of the deeper marshes of the Nebraska Sandhills and in the Rainwater Basin. Breeding to the south of Nebraska is infrequent and local.

Common Merganser (*Mergus merganser*). The only evidence of breeding in the state is the sight record of a brood in Custer County in 1968 (NBR 37:45). This species is regular in summer in the Lake Alice area, Scotts Bluff County, and breeding has been suspected (R. Rosche, pers. comm.).

Turkey Vulture (*Cathartes aura*). Apparently a local breeder along some of the major river systems (Republican, Missouri, and Niobrara rivers), and in the Pine Ridge area of the northwestern Panhandle (NBR 39:19).

Sharp-shinned Hawk (*Accipiter striatus*). Apparently a rare nester. The only specific records are for Sioux County (Bruner, Wolcott, and Swenk 1904), but the species probably also nests in the Missouri's forested valley, since it is known to be an uncommon breeder as close as Squaw Creek National Wildlife Refuge in northwestern Missouri.

Cooper's Hawk (*Accipiter cooperii*). Uncertain, but probably a rare nester in the Missouri River forests of eastern Nebraska. Believed by Rapp et al. (1958) to be a resident throughout the state, but there is no evidence favoring this view. There are some recent summer records from the Pine Ridge area, and also an observation of an adult carrying food near Alma, Harlan County (R. Rosche, pers. comm.).

Red-tailed Hawk (*Buteo jamaicensis*). Breeds throughout the state, primarily in wooded areas of the eastern half.

Swainson's Hawk (*Buteo swainsoni*). Breeds virtually throughout the state, but is more common in the western half, and the eastern limits of regular breeding are probably west of a line from Gage to Burt counties.

Ferruginous Hawk (*Buteo regalis*). A local and uncommon breeder in western Nebraska, with the eastern limits of regular breeding probably west of a line from Dundy to Keya Paha counties.

Golden Eagle (*Aquila chrysaetos*). A rare and local breeder in western Nebraska, especially in the Pine Ridge area (Rosche 1977), and with records from as far east as Lincoln County.

Bald Eagle (*Haliaeetus leucocephalus*). Accidental. There is a single record of an attempted nesting in Cedar County in 1973 (NBR 41:76). The nearest area of regular breeding is in northwestern Minnesota.

Marsh Hawk (*Circus cyaneus*). Breeds throughout the entire state, probably most commonly in the Sandhills.

Osprey (*Pandion haliaetus*). Accidental. There is a single old Nebraska nesting record, from Cass County, (Bruner, Wolcott, and Swenk 1904). The nearest area of regular breeding is in northwestern Minnesota.

Prairie Falcon (*Falco mexicanus*). A local and rare breeder in the northwestern Panhandle, with nesting records for Dawes and Sioux counties (Rapp et al., 1958), as well as for Sheridan County (R. Rosche, pers. comm.). Potentially breeds in and should be looked for in Scotts Bluff, Banner, and Kimball counties as well.

Merlin (*Falco columbarius*). Extremely rare breeder in the Pine Ridge area, with specific records for Dawes County, in 1975 (NBR 43:78), and another nesting in 1978, also in Dawes County (Ross Lock, pers. comm.).

American Kestrel (*Falco sparverius*). Relatively common breeder throughout the state.

Greater Prairie Chicken (*Tympanuchus cupido*). A local breeder in various parts of the state, especially on the eastern half of the Sandhills, but also in southwestern Nebraska and in a few southeastern counties. The range is discontinuous, and is probably locally declining.

Sharp-tailed Grouse (*Pedioecetes phasianellus*). A common breeder over much of the state, primarily north of the Platte River and with its eastern limits approximating those of the Sandhills. Once much more widespread, and probably bred throughout the entire state (Johnsgard and Woods, 1968).

Bobwhite (*Colinus virginianus*). Breeds commonly throughout the eastern and southern portions of the state, extending into the Sandhills along river drainages, and reaching the Wyoming and Colorado borders along the North Platte and South Platte rivers and the tributaries of the Republican River. The western range limits of this species are highly variable, depending on yearly weather conditions.

Ring-necked Pheasant (*Phasianus colchicus*). Introduced and now breeding virtually throughout the state, but more common in the eastern half.

Turkey (*Meleagris gallopavo*). Originally native to Nebraska, but extirpated from the state. Reintroductions in many areas have reestablished the species, especially in the Pine Ridge area and along several of the major river systems.

King Rail (*Rallus elegans*). An apparently rare breeder in eastern Nebraska, with few actual records. It probably breeds locally east of a line from Jefferson to Knox counties, and possibly also breeds in the Clear Creek marshes at the west end of Lake McConaughy (R. Rosche, pers. comm.).

Virginia Rail (*Rallus limicola*). A local but probably fairly common breeder in suitable habitats throughout the state except for the extreme northwestern corner. It is a regular at Crescent Lake Refuge, and around University Lake in southern Sioux County, and occurs locally elsewhere in Sioux and Dawes counties (R. Rosche, pers. comm.).

Sora (*Porzana carolina*). A locally common breeder nearly throughout the state, including the western Panhandle, being found at University Lake, Sioux County, and locally elsewhere (R. Rosche, pers. comm.).

Common Gallinule (*Gallinula chloropus*). An apparently rare breeder in Nebraska, with a few scattered and old breeding records (Cherry, Lincoln, Douglas counties). The usual western limits of its breeding range seem to be in Iowa, and these Nebraska records are apparently extralimital.

American Coot (*Fulica americana*). A common to abundant breeder in suitable localities throughout the state, probably being most numerous in the Sandhills.

Piping Plover (*Charadrius melodus*). The present status of this species is somewhat uncertain, but it probably should be considered threatened. There are several older nesting records for the Niobrara, North and South Platte, Loup, and Missouri rivers, but most of the recent records seem to be for the Missouri River from Douglas to Washington counties, and Lake McConaughy, Keith County, where it probably nests (R. Rosche, pers. comm.).

Killdeer (*Charadrius vociferus*). A common breeding bird throughout the state.

Mountain Plover (*Charadrius montanus*). A rare breeder in extreme western Nebraska, with a 1974 record of young for Kimball County (NBR 43:54) the only probable case of breeding in this state.

American Woodcock (*Philohela minor*). Apparently an accidental or very rare breeder in eastern Nebraska. There is a 1972 record for Sarpy County (NBR 43:43), and some possible earlier nestings (Bruner, Wolcott, and Swenk 1904). The nearest area of regular breeding is in western Minnesota, but scattered cases of breeding in Kansas and Oklahoma suggest that some birds may never reach their breeding grounds from the wintering areas and sometimes attempt to breed in suitable habitats.

Common Snipe (*Gallinago gallinago*). A very rare or highly local breeder in the state. The only records seem to be from Garden County, and more recently, Rock County (NBR 38:17). However it is regular in summer at the Clear Creek marshes, Garden County, and in the Pine Creek drainage north of Smith Lake in Sheridan County, so nesting is very likely (R. Rosche, pers. comm.).

Long-billed Curlew (*Numenius americanus*). Largely limited to the Sandhills and western High Plains of Nebraska, where it is a locally common breeder. Its eastern breeding limit in Nebraska (which is also its overall eastern range limit) seems to coincide with the eastern edge of the Sandhills.

Upland Sandpiper (*Bartramia longicauda*). Breeds locally in suitable habitats throughout the state including the High Plains of the western counties, but most common in the Sandhills.

Spotted Sandpiper (*Actitis macularia*). Breeds in suitable habitats throughout the state.

Willet (*Catoptrophorus semipalmatus*). A locally common breeder in the Sandhills region, but apparently absent from the rest of the state. This area represents the southernmost part of the species' breeding range in the Plains States.

American Avocet (*Recurvirostra americana*). A locally common breeder in the Sandhills region, and also found in suitable habitats in the western and southwestern portions of the state. There seems to be no record of breeding for areas east of the Sandhills.

Wilson's Phalarope (*Steganopus tricolor*). Breeds commonly in suitable habitats in central and western Nebraska, particularly the Sandhills. The limits of breeding appear to be west of a line from Thayer to Thurston counties.

Franklin's Gull (*Larus pipixcan*). A very rare or accidental breeder in the state, with the only records apparently being some from Garden County (NBR 34:63; 35:32). The nearest area of regular breeding is in east-central South Dakota.

Forster's Tern (*Sterna forsteri*). Apparently a highly localized breeder in the state, with most records from Garden County (regular breeder at Crescent Lake), and occasional breeding elsewhere in the Sandhills. It apparently breeds regularly in some Sheridan County marshes such as Peter Long Lake, and probably nests occasionally at Smith Lake (R. Rosche, pers. comm.). There is only a single nesting record from farther south (Barton County, Kansas) in the Plains States.

Least Tern (*Sterna albfrons*). Breeds locally and probably irregularly in suitable habitats in the Platte and Niobrara valleys. Rare and probably declining in the state.

Black Tern (*Chlidonias niger*). Breeds in suitable habitats throughout the state, but most common in the Sandhills. The southern limit of breeding is extremely unclear but is probably southern Nebraska, since there is only a single definite Kansas breeding record.

Rock Dove (*Columba livia*). An introduced species that now breeds throughout the state.

Mourning Dove (*Zenaidura macroura*). This species breeds abundantly throughout the state in suitable habitats.

Yellow-billed Cuckoo (*Coccyzus americanus*). A relatively common breeder in wooded habitats throughout the state, becoming rarer toward the northwest. The northern limits of breeding in the Plains States are in South Dakota.

Black-billed Cuckoo (*Coccyzus erythrophthalmus*). A relatively common breeder in wooded habitats throughout the state, occurring in slightly more heavily wooded habitats than the last species, and being more northerly in its general distribution. However, in western and northwestern areas it is a good deal rarer than the Yellow-billed Cuckoo.

Barn Owl (*Tyto alba*). Probably an uncommon and local breeder throughout the state, but there are a few actual nesting records. The northern limits of breeding in the Plains States occurs in South Dakota, and in Nebraska the species is probably more common in the more southerly counties.

Screech Owl (*Otus asio*). A fairly common breeder throughout the state, wherever wooded habitats provide nesting sites.

Great Horned Owl (*Bubo virginianus*). Breeds uncommonly throughout the state, probably being most common in wooded river valleys and the Pine Ridge area.

Burrowing Owl (*Athene cunicularia*). Breeds over most of the state with the exception of the southeastern corner, but rare and irregular at the eastern edge. Recent breeding has occurred at least as far east as Lancaster County, but the species is regular only in western areas where prairie dog colonies are still present, or where other mammal-dug burrows are available.

Barred Owl (*Strix varia*). Breeds throughout the Missouri's forested valley, westward along the Platte valley an uncertain distance. At one time breeding may have occurred as far west along the Platte valley as the Colorado line, but there seems to be no evidence for recent breeding in central or western Nebraska.

Long-eared Owl (*Asio otus*). Probably a rare to uncommon breeder in suitable habitats throughout the state, and apparently largely limited to the major river valleys.

Short-eared Owl (*Asio flammeus*). Apparently a local breeder throughout the state in suitable habitats, but probably most common in the Sandhills. The southern limits of breeding in the Plains States are probably southwestern Nebraska in the west and east-central Kansas toward the east.

Whip-poor-will (*Caprimulgus vociferus*). Breeding apparently occurs in the Missouri's forested valley from the South Dakota to the Missouri borders, and probably also in Pawnee County (NBR 42:6), along the Big Nemaha River, but evidently not as far west as Gage County.

Poor-will (*Phalaenoptilus nuttallii*). Breeds commonly in the western part of the state, generally west of a line from Sheridan to Harlan counties. There are occasional nestings farther east, at least as far as Lancaster County (NBR 45:42).

Common Nighthawk (*Chordeiles minor*). Breeds commonly throughout the state, especially around cities.

Chimney Swift (*Chaetura pelagica*). Breeds locally throughout most of the state, becoming uncommon toward the west, and with the probable normal breeding limits east of a line from Dawes to Hitchcock counties.

White-throated Swift (*Aeronautes saxatalis*). Breeding is limited to the Pine Ridge area, the vicinity of Scottsbluff, and the Wildcat Hills of western Nebraska (Rosche, 1977; Rapp et. al., 1958).

Ruby-throated Hummingbird (*Archilochus colubris*). Breeding occurs in eastern Nebraska at least in the Missouri's forested valley, and an uncertain distance to the west along the Platte and other major river valleys.

Belted Kingfisher (*Megaceryle alcyon*). Breeds locally in suitable habitats throughout the state.

Common Flicker (*Colaptes auratus*). This species breeds commonly throughout the state. Both the yellow-shafted and red-shafted forms occur in the state, but hybrids are numerous in a zone of contact that includes much of western Nebraska (Short, 1965b).

Red-bellied Woodpecker (*Melanerpes carolinus*). Breeds commonly in the eastern riparian forests, and extends west locally along the Niobrara valley at least to the Valentine area of eastern Cherry County, the Platte valley to Lincoln County, and the Republican valley to Dundy County.

Red-headed Woodpecker (*Melanerpes erythrocephalus*). Breeds commonly in riparian forests and open woodlands nearly throughout the state, extending west into Colorado along the Platte valley and reaching or nearly reaching the Wyoming border in the Pine Ridge area. Occupying slightly more open areas than does the Red-bellied Woodpecker, it is more common in western parts of the state than is that species.

Lewis's Woodpecker (*Melanerpes lewis*). Reportedly a rare resident in the Pine Ridge of northwestern Nebraska (Bruner, Wolcott, and Swenk 1904; Rapp et al., 1958), and there is also a possible nesting record for Logan County (Glandon 1948). Richard Rosche (pers. comm.) doubts whether this species nests in the state any longer, although a few birds summered in 1978 at Chadron State Park. He regards it as a threatened species in the state.

Hairy Woodpecker (*Picoides villosus*). Breeds in suitable habitats throughout the state, but probably most common in eastern riparian forests.

Downy Woodpecker (*Picoides pubescens*). Breeds in suitable wooded habitats throughout the state, and occupying essentially the same habitats as those of the Hairy Woodpecker.

Eastern Kingbird (*Tyrannus tyrannus*). Breeds in suitable habitats throughout the state, generally somewhat more common toward the east.

Western Kingbird (*Tyrannus verticalis*). Breeds commonly throughout the state, with the possible exception of the extreme southeastern counties (Richardson, Nemaha), which are near the easternmost limit of normal breeding for this species.

Scissor-tailed Flycatcher (*Muscivora forficata*). A very rare breeder in south-central and southeastern Nebraska (with records for Adams, Lancaster, Logan, Gage, and Clay counties.) The usual northern limit of the breeding range is in north-central Kansas, but sporadic nestings in Nebraska can be expected.

Great Crested Flycatcher (*Myiarchus crinitus*). Breeds in wooded habitats in the eastern half of the state, mainly along the larger river valleys, but extending locally west to Sioux County (Sowbelly Canyon) in the north, Deuel County along the South Platte, and Dundy County along the Republican valley.

Eastern Phoebe (*Sayornis phoebe*). Breeds commonly in wooded habitats in eastern Nebraska, and extends along river systems locally as far west as Sioux, Brown, Lincoln, and Dundy counties in White, Niobrara, Platte, and Republican valleys respectively.

Say's Phoebe (*Sayornis saya*). Breeds commonly in western Nebraska, extending east locally at least to Cumming, York, and Clay counties, which represent the usual eastern limits of this species' range.

Acadian Flycatcher (*Empidonax vireescens*). Breeding is apparently restricted to the Missouri's forested valley, with uncertain northern limits. At one time breeding probably extended to the South Dakota border, but its range has evidently retracted in the last 50 years.

Willow Flycatcher (*Empidonax traillii*). Breeding is fairly common in the Sandhills area, west at least to Cherry, Thomas, and Keith counties. The Panhandle is possibly also part of the species' range, but the known western limits are Smith Lake, Sheridan County, and Shell Lake, Cherry County (R. Rosche, pers. comm.).

Least Flycatcher (*Empidonax minimus*). Apparently a very rare breeder in the state. There are early reports of breeding for Omaha and Dakota City, and more recently pairs on territory have been reported in Brown County (*NBR* 33:2). Territorial birds have also been seen at Whitney Lake and Box Butte Reservoir, Dawes County (R. Rosche, pers. comm.). Apparently northern and northeastern Nebraska represents the species' southern breeding limits in the Plains States.

Western Flycatcher (*Empidonax difficilis*). A very rare or accidental breeder, with only a single state record, for Sioux County (*NBR* 43:18).

Eastern Wood Pewee (*Contopus virens*). Breeding occurs commonly in the woodlands of eastern Nebraska, with local nesting extending west along river systems at least as far west as Dawes, Cherry, Deuel, and Dundey counties. There seems to be no records for breeding within the Sandhills area.

Western Wood Pewee (*Contopus sordidulus*). Breeding occurs in western and several northwestern counties (Sioux, Dawes, and Scotts Bluff) and extends an unknown distance farther east but apparently at least to Garden County (Fred Zeilemaker, pers. comm.). Hybridization with *virens* possibly occurs in the Niobrara valley west of Valentine (*NBR* 29:15), but the eastern limits of this species in the Platte valley are quite uncertain.

Horned Lark (*Eremophila alpestris*). Breeding occurs commonly throughout the state in open grassland habitats.

Violet-green Swallow (*Tachycineta thalassina*). Breeding is limited to northwestern areas of the Pine Ridge, to the vicinity of Scottsbluff, and to the Wildcat Hills (Rapp et al. 1958; Rosche 1977).

Tree Swallow (*Iridoprocne bicolor*). Breeding occurs in eastern Nebraska, probably primarily in the Missouri's forested valley, but probably extends west as far as Cherry County in the Niobrara valley and Hall County in the Platte valley. It is also a regular nester at Whitney Lake, Dawes County, and may nest at Cottonwood Lake, Cherry County (R. Rosche, pers. comm.).

Bank Swallow (*Riparia riparia*). Breeds throughout the state. The southern and western limits of breeding in the Plains States are extremely hard to define, but there seems to be little breeding in eastern Colorado or western Kansas, so Nebraska and eastern Kansas may represent the approximate limits for regular breeding in the Plains States.

Rough-winged Swallow (*Stelgidopteryx ruficollis*). Breeding occurs throughout the state, but it is less common in the western portions than in the east.

Barn Swallow (*Hirundo rustica*). Breeding occurs throughout the state wherever there are suitable nesting sites and foraging areas.

Cliff Swallow (*Petrochelidon pyrrhorota*). Breeding occurs throughout the state in suitable habitats.

Purple Martin (*Progne subis*). The western limits of breeding in this human-adapted species can be described as extending along a line from eastern Cherry County southward through Red Willow County, with Ogallala and Lewellen representing the approximate present westernmost breeding areas.

Blue Jay (*Cyanocitta cristata*). A common breeder throughout the state, wherever a combination of trees and grassland can be found.

Black-billed Magpie (*Pica pica*). Breeding occurs throughout the western half of the state, with the eastern limits approximately defined by a line drawn from Boyd to Nuckolls counties.

White-necked Raven (*Corvus cryptoleucus*). Apparently a rare and irregular breeder in south-central and southwestern Nebraska. There are probable nesting records from Adams and Kearney counties (*NBR* 44:38-39), and also one records for Dundey County (*NBR* 45:16). The species' northern limit of regular breeding is in northwestern Kansas, not far from the Nebraska line.

Common Crow (*Corvus brachyrhynchos*). Breeds throughout the state in suitable habitats.

Gray Jay (*Gymnorhinus cyanocephalus*). A local but "fairly common" breeder in the Pine Ridge area (Rapp et al. 1958).

Black-capped Chickadee (*Parus atricapillus*). Breeds in wooded habitats throughout eastern Nebraska, but apparently largely absent from the Sandhills. The species occurs along the Niobrara River for its entire length, almost to the Wyoming border in Sioux County, and also extends into Colorado in the South Platte and Republican River valleys.

Tufted Titmouse (*Parus bicolor*). Breeding is largely limited to the Missouri's forested valley, north probably to the South Dakota border, and it also extends west along the Big Blue valley to at least as far as Saline County (Short, 1961).

White-breasted Nuthatch (*Sitta carolinensis*). Breeds in suitable wooded habitats in the eastern part of the state, extending locally as far west as the Pine Ridge area, and to at least Hall County in the Platte valley.

Pygmy Nuthatch (*Sitta pygmaea*). Probably a regular breeder in the Pine Ridge area, but there is only a single state record, for Sioux County (NBR 40:70). It is apparently cyclical in the Pine Ridge, but is regular in Sowbelly Canyon, Sioux County, and also nests at least as far east as Chadron State Park, Dawes County (R. Rosche, pers. comm.).

Brown Creeper (*Certhia familiaris*). Probably a rare breeder in the Missouri's forested valley. There are several pre-1900 records for the eastern part of the state, but the first recent one is for 1975, in Sarpy County (NBR 43:80). It was reported again in 1977 (NBR 46:14). Nesting in the Pine Ridge area is likely but unproven; territorial males there are heard each summer (R. Rosche, pers. comm.).

House Wren (*Troglodytes aedon*). A common breeder throughout the state in suitable habitats.

Bewick's Wren (*Thryomanes bewickii*). Breeding is rare and probably limited to extreme southeastern Nebraska. Breeding may exceptionally occur as far west as Kearney (Rapp et al. 1958), and nesting has also been reported from Gage County (Fiala, 1970), but earlier suggestions that it breeds in western Nebraska are certainly erroneous. This is the northernmost area of the species' breeding range in the Plains State.

Carolina Wren (*Thryothorus ludovicianus*). Breeding is limited to extreme southeastern Nebraska, periodically or locally extending north to Douglas County and west to Lancaster and Nuckolls counties. This represents the northernmost extension of the species' range in the Plains States.

Long-billed Marsh Wren (*Cistothorus palustris*). Breeding is mostly limited to the area north of the Platte River, with local or infrequent breeding south of the Platte (NBR 39:74).

Short-billed Marsh Wren (*Cistothorus platensis*). Breeding is mostly confined to the eastern third of Nebraska, or east of a line from Knox to Gage counties. The Sandhills are not a part of this species' regular Nebraska range, which contrasts with the situation for the Long-billed Marsh Wren.

Rock Wren (*Salpinctes obsoletus*). Breeding seems to be generally limited to that part of the state that lies west of the Sandhills, with local breeding extending as far east as Cherry, Custer, and Lincoln counties.

Mockingbird (*Mimus polyglottos*). Although Mockingbirds have been found nesting nearly everywhere in the state, including as far northwest as Sioux County in the Panhandle and north to Thomas and Greeley counties in the Sandhills, the usual breeding limits can be perhaps described as including all but the western half of the northern third of the state. Breeding is rare in South Dakota, and thus Nebraska can be considered to represent the normal northern breeding limits for the Plains States.

Gray Catbird (*Dumetella carolinensis*). Breeds fairly commonly in suitable habitats throughout the state, but becoming rarer northwestwardly and apparently retreating from the Pine Ridge, where habitat is decreasing (R. Rosche, pers. comm.).

Brown Thrasher (*Toxostoma rufum*). Breeding occurs almost throughout the state, with the possible exception of the area south of the North Platte River in extreme western Nebraska.

American Robin (*Turdus migratorius*). A common breeder in suitable habitats throughout the state.

Wood Thrush (*Hylocichla mustelina*). Breeds locally in wooded habitats in eastern areas, extending west locally to Cherry, Lincoln, and Thomas counties (NBR 29:9; 34:18).

Swainson's Thrush (*Catharus ustulatus*). Apparently a very rare breeder in the Pine Ridge, with a single known record, for Dawes County (NBR 42:17). It is a common breeder in the Black Hills, and thus occasional Pine Ridge nesting should not be surprising.

Eastern Bluebird (*Sialia sialis*). Breeding is mostly confined to the eastern half of the state, but along wooded river drainages there is breeding as far west as Dawes County in the White River drainage, to Brown or perhaps Cherry County in the Niobrara valley, and the Colorado border in the South Platte and Republican valleys. There is also local breeding in the eastern Sandhills where wooded habitats permit.

Mountain Bluebird (*Sialia currucoides*). Breeding is confined to the Panhandle area of Nebraska, particularly the Pine Ridge of Sioux, Dawes, and Sheridan counties and the Wildcat Hills of Banner County.

Townsend's Solitaire (*Myadestes townsendi*). Breeding has been reported only once for the state, in Sioux County, and it is very doubtful whether this species should still be considered a part of the state's breeding avifauna (R. Rosche, pers. comm.).

Blue-gray Gnatcatcher (*Poliophtila caerulea*). Breeding is limited to the Missouri's forested valley, north possibly as far as the South Dakota border, and smaller tributary valleys in the southeastern corner, west probably to about Lancaster County (NBR 43:23).

Cedar Waxwing (*Bombicilla cedrorum*). The overall range is slightly uncertain, but at least includes the Missouri's forested valley south probably to about the Kansas border, the Pine Ridge area, and locally elsewhere such as Scottsbluff and probably the Bessey Division of the Nebraska National Forest (NBR 39:16; 45:3). Although there are scattered nesting records farther south, Nebraska seems to represent the general southern limits of regular breeding in the Plains States.

Loggerhead Shrike (*Lanus ludovicianus*). Breeds throughout the state in suitable habitats.

Starling (*Sturnus vulgaris*). This self-introduced species now breeds commonly throughout the state.

White-eyed Vireo (*Vireo griseus*). The northern limits of this species in the Plains States are reached in the lower part of the Missouri's forested valley, probably at least as far north as Sarpy County (Rapp et al, 1958).

Bell's Vireo (*Vireo bellii*). Breeds in suitable habitats throughout most of the state excepting the extreme western part of the state and the drier parts of the Sandhills. Western limits are probably Dawes County in the Pine Ridge, Cherry County in the Niobrara valley, Garden County in the North Platte valley, and the Colorado border in the valleys of the South Platte and Republican rivers.

Yellow-throated Vireo (*Vireo flavifrons*). Breeding occurs along the Missouri's forested valley from South Dakota to Kansas, westward along the Niobrara valley at least to Brown County, along the Sandhills rivers west to at least Garfield County, and along the Platte valley west to at least Hall County.

Solitary Vireo (*Vireo solitarius*). A rare summer resident in the Pine Ridge, especially in the westernmost canyons of Sioux County, such as Sowbelly Canyon (R. Rosche, pers. comm.).

Red-eyed Vireo (*Vireo olivaceus*). Breeding is mostly limited to the eastern half of the state, but along wooded river valleys it extends to Sioux (White River), Cherry (Niobrara), Thomas (Nebraska National Forest), and the Colorado border (South Platte). The western limit along the Republican valley is probably about Dundly County (Cink, pers. comm.).

Warbling Vireo (*Vireo gilvus*). This species has a somewhat broader breeding distribution in Nebraska than the Red-eyed and Yellow-throated Vireos, extending west to the Pine Ridge (Rosche 1977), occurring virtually throughout the Sandhills in suitable habitats, and extending west to the Colorado border along the South Platte (NBR 29:9), and to Dundly County on the Republican River (Cink, pers. comm.).

Black-and-white Warbler (*Mniotilta varia*). This species is commonest in the Missouri and Niobrara river valleys, extending in the latter valley west probably to Cherry County, and it also nests in the Pine Ridge (Short 1961; Rosche 1977). However, there is no evidence that it follows the Platte valley westward to any significant extent. The breeding range in South Dakota seems to be appreciably greater than that of Nebraska.

Prothonotary Warbler (*Protonotaria citrea*). Breeding is limited to the lower part of the Missouri's forested valley, with occasional breeding as far north as Sarpy County (NBR 45:5).

Yellow Warbler (*Dendroica petechia*). Breeds throughout the state in suitable habitats.

Yellow-rumped Warbler (*Dendroica coronata*). Breeding is limited to the Pine Ridge area, at least including Sioux and probably Dawes counties (NBR 40:41).

Cerulean Warbler (*Dendroica cerulea*). Breeding is limited to the lower part of the Missouri's forested valley, extending at least to Sarpy County, where nesting has occurred several times (Rapp et al 1958). A female with a well-developed brood-patch was netted in Sarpy County in July 1978 (NBR 46:86).

Chestnut-sided Warbler (*Dendroica pensylvanica*). An accidental breeder, with a 1894 nesting record for near Omaha, and a 1975 breeding record for Scotts Bluff County (NBR 44:10).

Ovenbird (*Seiurus aurocapillus*). breeding is apparently restricted to the Pine Ridge (Rosche 1977), the Niobrara valley west at least to Cherry County (Short 1961), and the Missouri's forested valley south to the Kansas border.

Kentucky Warbler (*Oporornis formosus*). Breeding is limited to the lower part of the Missouri's forested valley, north to at least Sarpy County (Rapp et al. 1958).

Common Yellowthroat (*Geothlypis trichas*). Breeding occurs throughout the state in suitable habitats.

Yellow-breasted Chat (*Icteria virens*). Breeding occurs in suitable habitats virtually throughout the state, including the extreme western Panhandle, where it occurs locally as far west as the Wyoming line (R. Rosche, pers. comm.).

American Redstart (*Setophaga ruticilla*). Breeding occurs throughout the Missouri's forested valley, the Pine Ridge, probably all of the Niobrara valley, perhaps locally in the Sandhills (Bessey Division of Nebraska National Forest), and sporadically in the Platte valley west to Adams County (NBR 36:40) and perhaps to Phelps County (Short 1961).

House Sparrow (*Passer domesticus*). This introduced species breeds throughout the state.

Bobolink (*Dolichonyx oryzivorus*). Breeding occurs locally throughout most of the state, west to Sioux County in the Panhandle, and Garden County in the Sandhills, with the usual southern limits probably occurring between the Platte and Republican rivers. Cink (pers. comm.) has reported a nest in Dundy County. There have been a few breedings in Kansas, but southern Nebraska seems to represent the normal southern limits for breeding in the Plains States.

Eastern Meadowlark (*Sturnella magna*). The limits of breeding in Nebraska for this species are most uncertain and in need of study. The only area where the species can be considered common is the eastern and southeastern corner (east of a line from Gage to Thurston counties), but there is local breeding along river courses and wet meadows as far west as Sioux and Garden counties and it is nearly as common as the Western Meadowlark at Crescent Lake National Wildlife Refuge, and probably elsewhere in wet meadow habitats in the Sandhills. The species also extends west along the Platte River to the Colorado border, where hybridization with the Western Meadowlark seem to be several times more frequent than elsewhere in the Plains States (Rohwer 1971; *Trans. Kansas Academy Sciences* 75:19).

Western Meadowlark (*Sturnella neglecta*). A common to abundant breeder throughout the state except possibly in the extreme southeastern corner.

Yellow-headed Blackbird (*Xanthocephalus xanthocephalus*). Breeds in suitable habitats throughout the state.

Red-winged Blackbird (*Agelaius phoeniceus*). Breeds throughout the state in suitable habitats.

Orchard Oriole (*Icterus spurius*). Breeds virtually throughout the state in suitable habitats.

Northern Oriole (*Icterus galbula*). As a species, breeding occurs throughout the state, with a zone of contact and hybridization between *galbula* and *bullockii* occurring in the western part of the state (Condor 66:130-150, 79:335-42).

Brewer's Blackbird (*Euphagus cyanocephalus*). The breeding range is slightly uncertain, but probably regular breeding occurs only in the northwestern corner of the state (west of a line from Kimball to Sheridan counties), with sporadic breeding elsewhere (Hale, Lancaster, and Johnson Counties).

Great-tailed Grackle (*Quiscalus mexicanus*). Two breedings of this species in 1977 Douglas (Douglas and Adams counties) have been documented (NBR 45:18), indicating that northward range expansion from Kansas has occurred. Whether the species will become established in Nebraska remains to be seen.

Common Grackle (*Quiscalus quiscula*). Breeding occurs throughout the state in suitable habitats.

Brown-headed Cowbird (*Molothrus ater*). Breeding occurs throughout the state in suitable habitats.

Western Tanager (*Piranga ludoviciana*). Breeds uncommonly in the Pine Ridge area, possibly extending east in the Niobrara valley far enough to come into contact with the Scarlet Tanager (NBR 59: 3).

Scarlet Tanager (*Piranga olivacea*). Breeds in the Missouri's forested valley, west in the Niobrara valley to at least Cherry County (Short, 1961), and west in the Platte valley an uncertain distance.

Summer Tanager (*Piranga rubra*). Breeds in the lower part of the Missouri's forested valley, occasionally north to at least Sarpy County. This represents the northernmost limit of breeding in the Plains States, and Nebraska thus is probably the only state in the Union having these three tanager species breeding within its borders.

Cardinal (*Cardinalis cardinalis*). Breeds widely in the eastern half of the state, and extends west nearly to the Wyoming border along the North Platte River, and to the Colorado border in the South Platte and Republican valleys. It is apparently absent from the western Sandhills, and except along the Platte rivers is generally found east of a line extending from Keith to central Cherry counties.

Rose-breasted Grosbeak (*Pheucticus ludovicianus*). Breeds in wooded habitats in the eastern part of the state, west to Holt, Garfield, and Phelps counties (NBR 29:19), or generally east of a line from Furnas to Holt counties.

Black-headed Grosbeak (*Pheucticus melanocephalus*). Breeds in western Nebraska, eastward locally to at least Rock, Garfield, and Hall counties (NBR 29:19). Hybridization with the Rose-breasted Grosbeak makes the eastern range limits difficult to establish with certainty (Auk 79:399-424; Wilson Bulletin 85:230-6).

Blue Grosbeak (*Guiraca caerulea*). Breeds in suitable habitats virtually throughout the state, but uncommon and quite local in the east, and rare in the Pine Ridge (Rosche 1977).

Indigo Bunting (*Passerina cyanea*). Breeds in eastern Nebraska west to the Pine Ridge in the Panhandle, to central Sandhills, and to the Colorado border along the South Platte valley. Otherwise apparently absent from the Panhandle and the western Sandhills.

Lazuli Bunting (*Passerina amoena*). This species is probably most common in the Pine Ridge, and generally is limited to west of a line from Keith to eastern Cherry counties. Birds occurring farther east are likely to be affected by hybridization, especially in the Platte valley (Auk 76:443-463; Wilson Bulletin 87:145-77).

Dickcissel (*Spiza americana*). Breeding occurs nearly throughout the state, excepting the extreme west and southwestern areas, or generally east of a line from Sioux to Dundy counties.

House Finch (*Carpodacus mexicanus*). Breeding is essentially restricted to the western Panhandle (from Scottsbluff County southward). There is also an isolated population in Lincoln County (NBR 21:38), and a probable small breeding colony in Oshkosh, Garden County (F. Zeilemaker, pers. comm.).

Pine Siskin (*Carduelis pinus*). Regular breeding is limited to the Pine Ridge area (Rosche 1977), but sporadic nesting has occurred widely in the state, including several eastern and southeastern counties following cold springs (Wilson Bulletin 41:77).

American Goldfinch (*Carduelis tristis*). Breeding occurs commonly throughout the state in suitable areas.

Red Crossbill (*Loxia curvirostra*). A local but regular breeder in the Pine Ridge area (NBR 40:71; Rosche 1977).

Rufous-sided Towhee (*Pipilo erythrophthalmus*). Breeding is mostly limited to the eastern half of the state, but extends locally west to Sioux County in the Pine Ridge, to Thomas County in the Sandhills, and to the Colorado border in the South Platte Valley.

Lark Bunting (*Calamospiza melanocorys*). Breeding occurs through western and central Nebraska, generally west of a line from Nuckolls to Dixon counties, with sporadic breeding to Lancaster County and sometimes even to northwestern Missouri (Wilson Bulletin 82:465).

Savannah Sparrow (*Passerculus sandwichensis*). The approximate limits of this species' range in Nebraska seem to be west and north of a line extending from the northeastern corner of Colorado to the southeastern tip of South Dakota. Its status in the Sandhills is slightly uncertain, but it seems to be limited to the western and northern parts of this area.

Grasshopper Sparrow (*Ammodramus savannarum*). Breeds virtually throughout the state.

Henslow's Sparrow (*Ammodramus henslowii*). Probably a rare and local resident in the eastern edge and southeastern corner of the state, with actual records limited to Lancaster and Washington counties. The present status of this species is quite uncertain.

Vesper Sparrow (*Poocetes gramineus*). Breeding probably occurs throughout most of the state except that part lying below the Platte River. There are no breeding records for Kansas, so this represents the southern edge of the species' range in the Plains States.

Lark Sparrow (*Chondestes grammacus*). Breeds throughout the state in suitable habitats, and particularly abundant in the Sandhills and Panhandle.

Cassin's Sparrow (*Aimophila cassinii*). Accidental, with breeding records for Perkins County (NBR 42:56, 43:37) and Dundy County (Cink, pers. comm.).

Dark-eyed Junco (*Junco hyemalis*). Breeding is apparently limited to the Pine Ridge area (Sioux and Dawes counties), representing an adjunct to the breeding population of the Black Hills.

Chipping Sparrow (*Spizella passerina*). Breeds in suitable habitats virtually throughout the state, with the Republican River valley possibly representing the southern breeding limits in southwestern Nebraska.

Clay-colored Sparrow (*Spizella pallida*). Apparently the only definite breeding record is for Hall County, in 1973 (NBR 42:9). The species is a regular migrant through the state and breeds in South Dakota, so should be looked for in northern parts of the state.

Brewer's Sparrow (*Spizella breweri*). Regular breeding is limited to the extreme western Panhandle (at least Sioux County, probably south to Kimball County). There is a single extralimital record for Howard County in 1972 (NBR 41:8).

Field Sparrow (*Spizella pusilla*). Breeds in suitable habitats throughout most of the state except for the western portions, nesting west at least as far as the eastern end of Lake McConaughy, Keith County (R. Rosche, pers. comm.).

Swamp Sparrow (*Melospiza georgiana*). Breeding is apparently highly local, but the range presumably includes the Missouri's forested valley (no specific records), and there are local records for the vicinity of Neligh in Antelope County, Smith Lake in Sheridan County (Rosche 1977), and the Loup valley in Howard County (NBR 38:18). Territorial males have also been found at Crescent Lake National Wildlife Refuge, Garden County (Fred Zeilemaker, pers. comm.).

Song Sparrow (*Melospiza melodia*). The range of this species in Nebraska is rather uncertain, but it seems to be relatively local and uncommon in the northern and eastern part of the state, with very few records for south of the Platte. There are recent records for Hall and Lancaster counties; earlier ones to Webster and Nemaha counties (NBR 43:3).

McCown's Longspur (*Calcarius mccownii*). The only known area of present breeding is from the southern boundary of Sioux County north to the Pine Ridge escarpment and west to the Wyoming line (R. Rosche, pers. comm.).

Chestnut-collared Longspur (*Calcarius ornatus*). Breeding is limited to the northwestern corner of the state, from southern Sioux and Box Butte counties, northeastwardly to Sheridan County and perhaps northern Cherry County, where there is only circumstantial evidence of breeding (NBR 34:19).

Extinct and Formerly Breeding Species

Swallow-tailed Kite (*Elanoides forficatus*). Reported to formerly breed in eastern Nebraska, but now extirpated (Rapp et al. 1958).

Red-shouldered Hawk (*Buteo lineatus*). There are early records of this species breeding along the Missouri (Bruner, Wolcott, and Swenk 1904), but no recent evidence of breeding in the state. It is an occasional breeder at Squaw Creek National Wildlife Refuge in northwestern Missouri, and should be looked for in Richardson County.

Broad-winged Hawk (*Buteo platypterus*). This species has bred in the Missouri's forested valley, and it still occurs in northwestern Missouri, but there seems to be no recent records of breeding in Nebraska.

Peregrine Falcon (*Falco peregrinus*). Extirpated. Probably once bred in Dawes County (Bruner, Wolcott, and Swenk 1904), but the nearest area of current known nesting is the Black Hills of South Dakota.

Ruffed Grouse (*Bonasa umbellus*). Extirpated. Previously bred in the Missouri's forested valley (Rapp et al. 1958), but the nearest area of known breeding is in east-central Missouri. Releases during 1968 in Nemaha County were evidently unsuccessful, with no records since 1973.

Lesser Prairie Chicken (*Tympanuchus pallidocinctus*). Possibly once bred in the extreme southwestern corner of the state (Sharpe 1968), but the nearest region of current breeding is in southwestern Kansas.

Sage Grouse (*Centrocercus urophasianus*). Probably once bred in extreme northwestern Nebraska, and still nests in adjoining Wyoming and South Dakota. There are no modern nest records from Nebraska, but displaying birds have been reported from Sioux County, so nesting within the state boundaries would not be surprising.

Gray Partridge (*Perdix perdix*). This introduced species once was established in northeastern Nebraska (at least Holt and Knox counties), but has been extirpated and the nearest area of regular breeding is in central South Dakota.

Marbled Godwit (*Limosa fedora*). This species was once believed to nest in Nebraska (Rapp et al. 1958), but currently its nearest known area of breeding is in east-central South Dakota.

Passenger Pigeon (*Ectopistis migratorius*). Extinct.

Carolina Parakeet (*Conuropsis carolinensis*). The Nebraska status of this extinct species has been summarized by Swenk (1934).

Pileated Woodpecker (*Dryocopus pileatus*). This species probably bred in the Missouri's forested valley prior to 1900, and has been reported recently (Rapp et al. 1971), but there is no evidence of its current breeding in the state. Sightings have been made as far north as Omaha (NBR 43:20).

Common Raven (*Corvus corax*). Once apparently bred in western Nebraska (Rapp et al. 1958), but there is no evidence of recent breeding.

Black-capped Vireo (*Vireo atricapilla*). The breeding range of this species at least reached central Kansas and some early sightings in southeastern Nebraska suggest that it may have once bred in this state (Graber 1961).

Unsuccessfully Introduced Species

Crested Tinamou (*Eudromia elegans*). Released in 1970 without success (Rapp et al. 1971).

California Quail (*Lophortyx californicus*). Unsuccessfully introduced into eastern Nebraska in 1939 (Rapp et al. 1971).

Scaled Quail (*Callipepla squamata*). Introduced into the state during the late 1950's. No reports since 1962 (Rapp et al. 1971).

Coturnix Quail (*Coturnix coturnix*). Unsuccessfully introduced in 1957.

Chukar (*Alectoris chukar*). Various attempts have been made to introduce this species into Nebraska, but apparently without success (Rapp et al. 1971). However, R. Rosche (pers. comm.) believes the species might still occur in the Sandhills of central Sheridan County and in the Pine Ridge West of Crawford.

Hypothetical Breeders

Common Loon (*Gavia immer*). It has been suggested that Loons have nested near Kingsley Dam, Keith County. (NBR 44:34, 60).

Yellow Rail (*Coturnicops noveboracensis*). This elusive species possibly breeds rarely in Nebraska, since there are at least two summer records (NBR 41:24).

Black Rail (*Laterallus jamaicensis*). Although considered by Rapp et al. (1958) as a rare summer resident, there are apparently no actual breeding records for Nebraska. It is known to breed in Kansas, and thus should be looked for in Nebraska.

Saw-whet Owl (*Aegolius acadicus*). No actual records of breeding in Nebraska exist for this species, but territorial birds have been heard calling at Fort Robinson, Dawes County (Rosche 1977), so nesting is to be expected in the Pine Ridge area.

Chuck-will's widow (*Caprimulgus carolinensis*). Although no nests have been found, territorial birds have repeatedly been heard calling in extreme southeastern Nebraska (NBR 35:50) and eventually it should be possible to prove that nesting does occur in the state.

Cassin's Kingbird (*Tyrannus vociferans*). There are no definite nesting records, but the species probably breeds in the southwestern Panhandle area (NBR 39:72). Additionally, it is seen every summer on the Pine Ridge from about Crawford westward (R. Rosche, pers. comm.).

Yellow-bellied Flycatcher (*Empidonax flaviventris*). The only evidence for this species breeding in the state (its nearest known area of breeding is northern Minnesota) is the capture of a female with a brood patch on 1 June 1978, in Sarpy County, and the later capture of an immature in the same general area (NBR 46:86). The possibility of confusion with the Acadian Flycatcher seems to make this record slightly questionable, but Dr. Norma Johnson, Lincoln, reported they nested there in 1978 and that she photographed adults and young. (NBR, in press).

Red-breasted Nuthatch (*Sitta canadensis*). There are no definite nest records for Nebraska, but breeding is probable in the central Niobrara valley and in the Pine Ridge area (NBR 35:30). Nest-building has been observed, especially in Sowbelly Canyon near Harrison (R. Rosche, pers. comm.).

Sage Thrasher (*Oreoscoptes montanus*). Although there seem to be no definite breeding records for the state, this species very probably breeds in Sioux County (NBR 40:71), and is known to breed in adjoining Fall River County in South Dakota.

Worm-eating Warbler (*Helminthos vermivorus*). This species has been reported without apparent justification to be a rare breeder in extreme southern Nebraska, as far west as Red Cloud (Rapp et al. 1958).

Yellow-throated Warbler (*Dendroica dominica*). This species has been reported without apparent justification to be a rare breeder in southeastern Nebraska (Rapp et al. 1958). The nearest area of regular breeding is eastern Oklahoma.

Prairie Warbler (*Dendroica discolor*). Reported breedings of this species in the late 1800's in Dakota and Richardson counties have not been followed by more recent sightings, and thus seem likely to have been the result of erroneous identification. The nearest area of known breeding is eastern Kansas.

Rusty Blackbird (*Euphagus carolinus*). A reported breeding in Hall County (NBR 41:7) was not accompanied by supporting information and is presumed to be erroneous, since there is no other evidence of breeding by this species in the Plains States.

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BOOK REVIEWS

The Birds of South Dakota: An Annotated Check List. 1978. Nathaniel R. Whitney et. al. The South Dakota Ornithologists' Union and the W.H. Over Museum, Vermillion. 311 pp. \$10.00. (Available from Buteo Books, Box 481, Vermillion, S. Dak. 57069).

This first book-length summary of the birds of South Dakota will be of considerable interest to Nebraska ornithologists as well as those in South Dakota, because of the great similarities in the avifaunas of the two states. It includes a total of 377 species, of which 308 are considered of regular occurrence. Additionally, 205 are considered to be regular breeders in the state. By comparison, the *Revised Check-list of Nebraska Birds* and supplement includes about 400 species, and my own current list of Nebraska's breeding birds includes 201 known breeding species and 13 hypothetical breeding species. Thus South Dakota seems to have a slightly larger number of breeding species than Nebraska, but fewer total species have been reported within its limits.

After an introductory discussion of geography and physiography of the state and photographs of representative habitats, the individual species accounts follow. Each of the 377 species has an associated map that indicates breeding, winter, and migratory distributions as they are currently known, and additional individual records for rare species or those outside of their regular ranges. Short statements of statewide status are included for all species, and additional sections on habitats, nesting, spring and fall migration, and wintering occurrence are included whenever appropriate. The book has a softback binding, and in addition to the photographs includes small line drawings of 54 representative species. There are useful indexes to bird species, to persons mentioned in the text, and to localities in the state.

All told, this is a most useful publication, and it fills what had been a serious gap in available information on bird distributions in the northern Great Plains.

— Paul A. Johnsgard, Lincoln.

Keith County Journal. John Janovy, Jr. Illustrated by the author. St. Martin's Press, New York. ix plus 210 pp. 6×8½, no index, hardbound. \$8.95.

The author is a professor in the School of Life Sciences, University of Nebraska at Lincoln and the book is sort of running commentary on field trips with his students to the Lake McConaughy area. They are looking for one-celled animals, but these animals spend much, if not all, of their lives as parasites, each with its favorite or exclusive host. so they hunt for the hosts — termites, snails, killifish and other fish, kangaroo rats and toads and other animals, and birds (many netted, but for blood samples to test for malaria and not banded, apparently) — and we have running comments on them, and on their habitats, and some comments on the owners of these habitats, on the human users of the habitats, and some side issues. Janovy apparently took some courses under George Miksch Sutton, whose watercolors he admires and who (apparently on an extra-curricular basis) gave him tips on technique. Unfortunately, color is used only on the dust jacket and without color the two line drawings (one of a snail, one of a Great Blue Heron) seemed to this reviewer to be more effective than the thirteen watercolors (all of birds). There is a lot of information in this book, not presented in an obviously organized manner but rather slipped in with the running comments, like medicine with orange juice, so that it is practically painless. "Apparently" is used above because the author writes in a stream-of-consciousness style. If you doubt that this style would appeal to you, try his comments on vacationers at Arthur Bay on Big Mac, starting on page 182.

— Editor

NOTES

YORK COUNTY SPECIALS. Norris Alfred and I went out for a couple of hours of birding last week and did quite well for August (1978). The less common birds we saw included two Turkey Vultures, a Blue Grosbeak (I've seen quite a few this summer), a flock of young Eastern Bluebirds, a Say's Phoebe, and two Mockingbirds.

— Lee Morris, Benedict

MISSISSIPPI KITE. We saw a Mississippi Kite on 9 September 1978 in Wilderness Park. Our field notes read: Plumage between adult and juvenile; a falconlike hawk with slate wings and back, no black auxillaries, notched striped tail, streaked head and breast with only a light eyeline. Flew slowly and was easily mobbed by Blue Jays, not the fast flight and wingbeat of a falcon. The weather was clear and the bird perched on the top of a dead tree about 100 yards away. 7×50 binoculars were used in the observation.

— Margaret and Daryl Giblein, Lincoln

RAPTORS. I have seen five Prairie Falcons so far this fall (10 December 1978) and three Bald Eagles — two immatures and one adult — and I did see one Golden Eagle earlier this fall.

— Lee Morris, Benedict

LATE SANDHILL CRANE. On 8 December 1978 I couldn't believe my eyes when I went out to feed the cattle; there was a Sandhill Crane standing in the cattle in the lot behind the barn. (The snow is so deep that the cattle can't get anything to eat in the corn stalks.) It had been the coldest night of the season, and was still well below zero when I saw it. It not only is out of season for Sandhill Cranes, but really out of their normal flight path. The bird has been here for three days now. It is quite tame, but does fly off one to two hundred yards when we are working in the cattle lot. I scattered corn on the snow for it the last two days.

— Lee Morris, Benedict

ROBIN FEEDING YOUNG SISKINS. In April and May, 1978, a Pine Siskin and an American Robin nested in the same tree at 2132 South 42nd Street in Omaha. The tree, a small ornamental conifer, was at the corner of a small office building. The activity of the Siskins attracted me to their nest, which was 5 feet above the ground. The Robin nest, some 7 feet above the ground, was on the other side of the tree. I first saw the Siskin nest on 26 April. On 30 April there were three quite large young Siskins in the nest and the adult flew off the nest when Clyde and I were only a few feet away. In the morning and in the evening of 2 May I saw a Robin feeding the young Siskins while the adult Siskins were in a nearby tree. At 8:20 AM on 4 May a Robin was feeding the young, which were well feathered, and at 6:30 PM, while Clyde and I were observing the nest, a Robin stopped to feed them. On 8 May one dead young Siskin remained in the nest, perhaps drowned by a rain of two days. There was no evidence of the other two young. The Robin nest in the same tree was first seen on 30 April, and on 18 May there were young in the nest.

—Emma Johnson, Omaha

MOUNTAIN BLUEBIRDS (AND OTHERS) NEAR HORDSVILLE. We really have lots of Bluebirds wintering north of here along the Platte this winter, and for some reason most of them are Mountain Bluebirds. We see some of them nearly every birding trip in that area. On 6 January 1979 Norris Alfred, Lennis Lind, and I drove around that area and as we topped one hill in the Platte bluffs we could see Bluebirds in the valley ahead. We stopped and watched for nearly half an hour as large flocks crossed and recrossed the road ahead. There were Robins mixed in with the flocks and having the light shining from behind and clear weather it was beautiful. The odd thing is that every Bluebird in the flock that we saw was a Mountain Bluebird. I don't know why they are here in such numbers this year, as I have never seen any Mountain Bluebirds in this area before. There are lots of Robins wintering here, but not as many as in some winters. We don't have many Cedar Waxwings, and I haven't seen any Purple Finches, Pine Siskins, or Townsend's Solitaires so far (12 January), which seems unusual.

— Lee Morris, Benedict

SOLITAIRES. On 27 October 1978 I saw two Townsend's Solitaires at Maxwell. I also saw a flock of Sandhill Cranes that day and another the next day. Both flocks were high in the air, and going south.

— Ruth C. Green, Bellevue

BOOK REVIEW

A Field Guide to the Nests, Eggs and Nestlings of North American Birds, Colin Harrison, William Collins Publishers, Inc., Cleveland, 416 pp., 622 eggs and 147 nestlings in full color, many line drawings, indexed, 5 × 7¼ inches, hardbound. \$11.95.

This book, which covers the area from the southern border of the U.S. to the North Pole, is like the author's previous book on European birds (*NBR* 44:31). He warns against egg collecting, and stresses the need for restraint and common sense in checking active nests. A discussion of nest types, sites, and building; egg types; hatching; and nestling types and manner of feeding follows. The author then gives three keys: to nests, to eggs, and to young nestlings and chicks. These keys are cross-referenced — whenever a species or group of species is mentioned in one key, the place (or places) it will be found in the other keys is given. This, in connection with knowledge of the nesting areas of the various species (not given in this book — to be obtained from other guides), should greatly narrow down the possibilities, but the author warns that often the only sure identification is from the parent bird. The rest of the text is given over to details for each species: usually a generalized statement for a group of related species, and for the individual species a short statement of the general type or types of terrain it prefers, and then comments on nest, breeding season, eggs, incubation, nestling, and nestling period. This latter part is more detailed than that found in some of the guides, such as Pough's, and more condensed than that in the more extensive treatments, such as Bent's, but the information can be obtained relatively easily from such other sources. To this reviewer the keys are the most important part of the book, followed by the color plates of the eggs and then of the nestlings. Anyone who does or might want to try to identify a nest would like to have this book available, but whether in his own library or in one to which he has access would depend on the expected frequency (and urgency) of the need, and on the state of his finances. The book does not (except incidentally) discuss or describe the adult birds so it is not a substitute for the usual field guide.

— Editor

NOTES

THE 1979 WINTER STORMS. In early February, on the Game Commission's TV program "Outdoor Nebraska", Mr. Ken Johnson answered a listener's question about the effect of the storm on Turkeys by saying that there was no trouble up to that time. Newspapers reported that Game Commission officials think that Bobwhites in marginal areas may be in trouble but that they won't be greatly affected in the south and southeast. On Pheasants the comments are divided: that they will do all right unless there is another storm, or that those that moved into the valleys may do all right, but that there is no way now of telling about those back in the hills. Sharp-tails and Prairie Chickens have seemingly increased in the northeast, and individuals have been reported as far down as the Fremont and Omaha areas. This movement is ascribed to the snow cover, the lack of preferred types of food, and a high population. In a 1950 comment on the '49 blizzard (*NBR* 18:32) Clyde Licking, of Seneca, Thomas County, said that the Sharp-tails and Prairie Chickens left until the bad weather was over, and then came back, had a very good hatch and survival rate, and that there were then more of them than he had seen since he was a boy at home. But he said that they lost every Pheasant on their place, and almost all of those in the Sandhills. All current accounts point out the difference between the present situation of almost uniform snow cover and the '49 situation of many bare areas, which allowed cattle (and deer and antelope) to forage. These bare areas not only provided birds with access to food, but also to the grit they need. There were many reports of depredation by deer and antelope on food supplies intended for cattle, but few by birds. Out west some Canadas were said to be feeding on baled alfalfa, and some 10,000 ducks (mostly Mallards) wintering on an ice-free drainage ditch near Gretna, Sarpy County, were raiding silage piles and an unharvested cornfield. But those birds that moved in with the cattle apparently did not arouse resentment.

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I have heard no general comments on non-game birds, but in the Omaha area they apparently were pretty hard hit. A few days after the ice storm almost everything above the snow plants, trees, fences, even buildings — still had a thick coat of ice, and the plowed roads (except those with heavy travel) were still covered with a thick ice coat, which presumably also covered the shoulders. I have found birding, except right on the roads, very unproductive. Ruth Green, Bellevue, has found many more dead birds than usual, and her pupils have brought her many more than usual. She had netted more than 300 winter birds before the storms, but after mid-January the population changed and she no longer got any of her "old-timers" back, presumably because of a southern shift in populations. Meadowlarks have started coming to her patio for the first time, and the two she netted (Westerns) were in very poor condition. The Padelfords, of Bellevue, have been doing more cross-country skiing than birding recently, but they have seen many dead Meadowlarks along the roads, and have had reports of Pheasants coming to feeders. They have noticed, as I have, Horned Larks in larger flocks than usual and staying closer to the road. After the '49 blizzard the Lickings found many frozen Horned Larks, Longspurs, and House Sparrows. The Padelfords are seeing what seemed to them an unusual number of Rough-legged Hawks and Kestrels.

—R.G. Cortelyou, Omaha

WINTERING RED-HEADED WOODPECKERS. On 10 January 1979 I saw two Red-headed Woodpeckers at Oak Creek, seven miles north of Cairo. I do not remember seeing any here in the winter before.

— Wm. Lemburg, Cairo

6-1979

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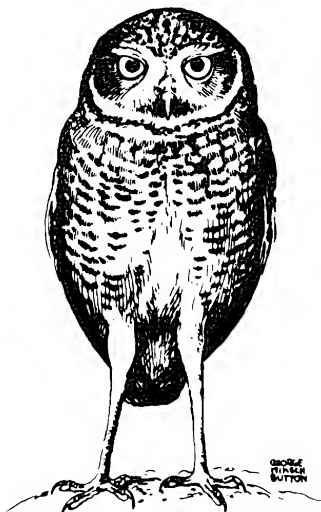
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1978 (TWENTY-FIRST) FALL OCCURRENCE REPORT

Two hundred sixty-nine species are listed in this report, which covers twelve localities. Comparable figures for prior years are: 267 from eleven localities in 1977, 271 from eleven localities in 1976, and 267 from nine localities in 1975.

The information is presented in a rough west (left) to east (right) order, with locations of about the same longitude listed with the northernmost first. Two dates indicate the first and last records during the period. The symbols used are:

Jl, Au, Sp, Oc, No, and De for the months.

S - to indicate a species which arrived before 1 July.

- W to indicate a species which remained after 31 December.

P to indicate a species which is present all the year, although the same individuals may not be present during the whole year, and the numbers may vary greatly between periods.

S-W also indicates much the same thing, but is used in cases which are considered special circumstances, rather than a normal pattern.

a, b, c, d, and e in the Washington column to indicate 25 July, 10 September, 4 November, 9 November, and 21 December, respectively.

The reporting locations, contributors (to the extent known), and special comments are: Adams, Hastings, 71 species, Miss Bernice Welch, reporter.

Boone, Albion, 110 species, Wayne J. Mollhoff, reporter. The Little Blue Heron was observed at 75 feet with a spotting scope, and Mr. Mollhoff noted the black-tipped, silver-gray beak, and the uniform greenish color of the legs and feet. He noted that Horned Larks were rare there this winter, and that there were very few Crows around, and that it seemed that there were fewer every year. He checked the Solitaire at 30 to 50 feet with a spotting scope. He didn't see any Loggerhead Shrikes all summer, and the Shrike sp. reported probably were all Northern. Apparently most of the Western Meadowlarks stayed for the winter. The Harris' Sparrows were present in fair numbers, in spite of the snow, but they are rare around Norfolk.

Douglas (and Sarpy), Omaha and Bellevue, 204 species. Tanya Bray, R.G. Cortelyou, Ruth C. Green, Babs and Loren Padelford, Melba Wigg, reporters, John L. Barton, Alan Grennon, Jim and Sandy Kovanda, Andy Saunders, and Audubon Society of Omaha. The Great Black-backed Gull is the subject of a separate note. The Mockingbird showed up at the Padelfords' birdbath. It came to drink about ten to a dozen times a day, but didn't eat any bird seed or fruit, which they provided for it at first. Some dates which were not included in the tabulation because they would be misleading include: a White-fronted and a Snow Goose seen together 19 July; a Northern Shoveler and a Lesser Scaup 23 July (the Scaup probably was one with a bad wing, which had been seen earlier in the month, but it was facing the wrong way to be sure); and a Rufous-sided Towhee (Spotted form) with a bad wing, seen 29 November. Andy Saunders saw a Greater Scaup at the Plattsmouth Refuge, which is south of the area covered by this report, about 18 November. The Christmas Count area extends farther into Iowa than the area normally covered by this report, and records from it are not included unless they are known to be from the normal area of this report.

Garden, Crescent Lake National Wildlife Refuge, 186 species. C. Fred Zeilemaker, reporter, Lloyd Douglas, Scott Foster, Paul Johnsgard, Richard and Dorothy Rosche, Everett F. Russell, Monte Shaul, Melly Zeilemaker. Mr. Zeilemaker points out that some species which do not winter on the Refuge do winter in the North Platte valley, some twenty miles south of the Refuge.

Hall, see Howard.

Howard (and Hall), St. Libory and Grand Island, 90 species. Bill Schleicher (reporter) and George Stoppkotte.

Lancaster, Lincoln, 159 species. Dr. Norma Johnson, Mrs. Mabel B. Ott, reporters. Babs and Loren Padelford.

Lincoln, North Platte and Hershey, 128 species. Mrs. W.H. Cunningham and Mrs. M.A. Cox, reporters. Mrs. Cunningham has a notation of a Sage Thrasher on 1 August, but it is not included in the table because she can not now find anyone who remembers the incident.

McPherson, Tryon, 75 species. Mrs. Oona Bassett, reporter, Mrs. Bassett notes that there was only one Turkey left, "coyotes got them". She had a partial albino immature White-crowned

— Text continued on p. 33

	Sioux	Scotts	Gar-	McPh.	Lin-	Howard	Adams	Boone	Lan-	W Doug-	Otoe
	Bluff	den			coln	Hall			caster	a Sarpy	
Common Loon	-	Oc 20 No 30	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Oc 22 No 22
Horned Grebe	-	Sp 22 No 15	Jl 17 No 7	-	-	-	-	-	Oc 26	-	Oc 19
Eared Grebe	-	Sp 22 No 15	S - No 14	S - Au 23	-	-	-	-	-	-	Oc 9
Western Grebe	-	Sp 22 No 15	S - No 14	S - Oc 1	Oc 23 No 17	-	-	-	Oc 26	-	Oc 25 No 24
Pied-billed Grebe	-	Sp 6 No 15	S - No 14	-	Sp 9	-	S - Jl 16	Au 19 Sp 13	Au 19 No 15	-	Au 1 No 12
White Pelican	-	Oc 18 No 18	S - No 10	Oc 1 Oc 6	-	Sp 23	-	Sp 16	Oc 10 Oc 26	d Au 30 No 20	-
Double-crested Cormorant	Sp 2	S - Oc 20	S - No 7	-	-	-	-	-	Oc 1 Oc 26	d Sp 23 No 9	-
Great Blue Heron	Au 29	S - No 10	S - No 7	S - Sp 25	S - De 16	Jl 4 Sp 23	-	S - Oc 6	Au 17 De 17	d S - De 17	-
Green Heron	-	-	-	-	Jl 18	-	-	-	S - No 9	-	S - Oc 8
Little Blue Heron	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Au 17	-	-	Au 1
Cattle Egret	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Au 29	Au 25 Sp 2
Great Egret	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Au 5 Au 11
Snowy Egret	-	-	Jl 30 Oc 1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Black-crowned Night Heron	-	Jl 8 Oc 19	S - Oc 19	-	Au 22 Sp 29	-	-	-	-	-	Sp 15 Oc 15
Yellow-crowned Night Heron	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Jl 28 Au 1
Least Bittern	-	-	Jl 17	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
American Bittern	-	-	S - Oc 1	-	-	-	-	-	Oc 20 De 17	-	Jl 14 No 18
Whistling Swan	-	No 6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Canada Goose	-	Oc 3 De 16	S - No 22	-	Jl 28 De 16	-	-	-	P	d Oc 7 No 24	-
White-fronted Goose	-	-	No 6 No 14	-	-	-	-	-	De 17	-	Oc 1 No 4
Snow Goose	-	No 4 De 16	Jl 9 No 11	-	De 16	-	-	-	Oc 2 De 17	d Sp 21 De 20	-
Mallard	P	P	S - - W	S - Oc 5	S - De 16	-	-	P	P	d S - De 18	-
Gadwall	Sp 21 No 30	Sp 30 No 11	S - No 11	-	Sp 29	-	-	-	Oc 5 Oc 20	-	Oc 3 No 30
Pintail	Sp 24 De 16	Sp 26 No 14	S - Oc 5	S - Oc 5	Sp 30	-	-	-	-	d Sp 23 Oc 21	-
Green-winged Teal	Sp 24 No 15	Sp 30 No 11	S - Oc 5	S - Oc 5	-	-	-	-	Oc 12	-	Oc 10 No 24
Blue-winged Teal	Sp 24 Oc 3	Sp 6 Oc 3	S - Oc 23	S - Oc 5	-	-	-	S - Au 19	Oc 6	-	S - Oc 11
American Wigeon	Sp 24 No 15	Sp 22 No 7	S - No 7	-	De 16	-	-	-	Oc 5 No 13	d Oc 3 No 18	-

	Sioux	Scotts	Gar-	McPh.	Lin-	Howard	Adams	Boone	Lan-	W Doug-	Otoe
	Bluff	den			coln	Hall			caster	a Sarpy	
Northern Shoveler	Sp 24 No 6	Sp 30 No 11	S -	-	Sp 30	-	-	Au 19	Jl 29 No 16	- Oc 19 No 19	-
Wood Duck	-	Sp 22 De 16	S - Oc 23	-	Sp 9 Oc 3	-	-	S - Sp 11	Jl 11 Jl 23	a S - No 15	-
Redhead	Oc 2 No 1	Sp 26 No 7	S - No 7	-	-	-	-	-	Oc 5 Oc 26	- Oc 19 Oc 30	-
Ring-necked Duck	-	Sp 30 No 1	Jl 17 No 7	-	-	-	-	-	-	- Oc 19 No 18	-
Canvasback	Oc 2 No 15	Oc 20 No 10	S -	-	-	-	-	-	-	- No 18 No 24	-
Lesser Scaup	Sp 24 De 16	Sp 22 No 14	S -	-	De 16	-	-	-	Oc 26	- Sp 21 No 30	-
Common Goldeneye	-	Oc 20 No 30	Jl 14 No 24	-	No 17 De 16	-	-	-	-	- No 11 De 3	-
Bufflehead	-	Oc 14 No 15	Oc 7 No 14	-	-	-	-	-	De 17	- No 18 De 5	-
Ruddy Duck	-	Sp 22 No 1	S - No 14	S - Oc 5	No 13	-	-	-	Oc 1	- Oc 10 No 30	-
Hooded Merganser	-	Sp 30 No 14	Oc 23 No 7	-	-	-	-	-	-	- Oc 29 De 17	-
Common Merganser	-	Sp 22 Oc 29	Jl 17 No 20	-	De 16	-	-	-	-	- Oc 17 De 6	-
Red-breasted Merganser	-	Sp 22 Oc 3	No 14	-	-	-	-	-	-	d No 19	-
Turkey Vulture	-	S - Au 6	Jl 23 Sp 24	-	Sp 9 Oc 1	-	-	-	Jl 16	- S - No 23	-
Goshawk	-	-	-	-	De 16	-	-	-	Sp 16	-	-
Sharp-shinned Hawk	-	-	Jl 26	-	De 13	-	-	No 3	Sp 16 De 17	- Sp 16 De 23	-
Cooper's Hawk	Sp 21	-	Sp 22 No 10	-	-	-	-	-	Oc 12 De 17	- Sp 16 Sp 30	Au 10
Red-tailed Hawk	Oc 15	P	S - De 17	-	S - De 16	P	P	P	P	-	P Sp 6
Broad-winged Hawk	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Sp 25	-	- Sp 16 Oc 1	-
Swainson's Hawk	-	Sp 20 Oc 1	S - Oc 1	S - Sp 29	Jl 15 Au 20	Sp 23	De 16	S - Sp 26	No 9	- De 17	-
Rough-legged Hawk	Oc 16 De 16	No 1 - W	Oc 7 - W	-	Sp 29 De 16	Sp 23	De 16	Oc 3 - W	No 9 De 17	- No 29 De 24	-
Ferruginous Hawk	-	-	Oc 24 No 7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Golden Eagle	P	P	Sp 16	-	De 16	De 20	-	De 25	-	-	-
Bald Eagle	-	De 16 De 28	Au 8 No 10	-	De 1 De 16	Oc 10 De 23	-	-	Oc 20 e De 17	c De 8	-
Marsh Hawk	P	P	S - De 3	-	P	P	De 16	Sp 28 No 29	Oc 1 De 17	- P	-
Osprey	-	-	Sp 15 Oc 24	-	-	Sp 23	-	-	-	- Sp 16 Oc 9	-
Gyr Falcon	-	-	De 27	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Prairie Falcon	P	P	Jl 31 De 26	Jl 21	-	-	-	No 6	De 17	-	-

	Sioux Bluff	Scotts den	Gar-den	McPh.	Lincoln	Howard Hall	Adams	Boone	Lan-caster	W Doug-Sarpy	Otoe
Peregrine Falcon	-	-	Sp 30	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Merlin	Sp 12	De 16	Oc 24	-	Sp 29 De 16	-	-	De 12	De 17	-	-
American Kestrel	S - Oc 20	P Jl 30 Oc 1	-	P	P	P	P	P	P	-	P -
Greater Prairie Chicken	-	-	-	Jl 1 Oc 3	Jl 16 De 16	-	-	P	-	-	-
Sharp-tailed Grouse	P	Oc 12 De 25	P	P	De 16	-	-	No 14 De 8	-	-	-
Bobwhite	-	P	-	Oc 3	P	P	P	P	P	-	P Au 15
Ring-necked Pheasant	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	-	P Oc 2
Turkey	P	P	-	P	P	-	-	P	-	-	-
Sandhill Crane	-	Oc 6 De 16	Oc 2 No 16	-	Oc 20	Oc 28 No 9	-	-	-	-	-
Virginia Rail	-	-	S - Sp 15	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Sora	-	-	S - Sp 14	-	-	-	-	Sp 20 Oc 10	Oc 1	-	Au 20
American Coot	Oc 15 No 1	S - No 1	S - No 14	S - Sp 11	Oc 23 De 16	-	Sp 5	Au 19	-	Au 1 De 3	-
Semipalmated Plover	-	-	Au 25 Sp 29	-	-	-	-	-	Au 5 Oc 1	-	-
Killdeer	S - Sp 25	S - No 15	S - Oc 7	S - Sp 25	S - No 2	S - Sp 23	S - Oc 15	S - No 10	S - No 17	S - De 2	-
Black-bellied Plover	-	-	Oc 1 Oc 31	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
American Woodcock	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	S - Oc 28	-
Common Snipe	Oc 10	De 16	Jl 30 Au 27	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	No 8
Long-billed Curlew	S - Au 7	-	S - Sp 21	S - Au 23	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Upland Sandpiper	S - Au 29	S - Au 26	S - Sp 3	S - Jl 21	S - Au 15	-	-	S - Au 17	S - Sp 1	-	S - Au 20
Spotted Sandpiper	-	S - Sp 22	Jl 17 Au 17	-	Jl 23	-	-	Au 23	-	-	Jl 17 Sp 23
Solitary Sandpiper	-	-	Jl 11 Au 27	-	Sp 9	-	-	-	Au 25 Sp 1	-	Au 1
Greater Yellowlegs	Oc 15	Sp 22 No 6	S - No 6	-	Sp 9	-	-	-	Au 5 No 16	-	-
Lesser Yellowlegs	-	-	Jl 9 Oc 23	-	Sp 9	-	-	-	Au 5 No 16	-	Au 1 Oc 12
Willet	-	-	S - Au 27	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Pectoral Sandpiper	-	Sp 22	Jl 21 Sp 30	-	-	-	-	-	Au 5 Oc 1	-	Jl 18 Oc 7
Baird's Sandpiper	-	Sp 22 Oc 14	Jl 28 Oc 23	Oc 1	Sp 30	-	-	-	Au 5 Oc 26	-	Au 12 Sp 21
Least Sandpiper	-	-	Jl 10 Oc 1	-	-	-	-	-	Au 5 Oc 26	-	Jl 20 Sp 21

	Sioux	Scotts	Gar-	McPh.	Lin-	Howard	Adams	Boone	Lan-	W Doug-	Otoe
	Bluff	Au	den		coln	Hall			caster	a Sarpy	
Black-billed Cuckoo	-	Jl 7	7 Au 30	23 Jl 1	1 Jl 7	-	-	S - Au 10	S - Oc 2	a Sp 3	-
Barn Owl	-	-	S - Sp 16	-	-	Sp 4 Oc 5	-	-	-	-	-
Screech Owl	-	P	-	-	P	-	P	P	P	-	P
Great Horned Owl	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	-	P
Burrowing Owl	S - Sp 24	S - Oc 15	S - Sp 22	Au 7	S - Au 25	S - Au 20	S - Jl 16	-	-	-	-
Barred Owl	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	De 17	-	P
Long-eared Owl	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Oc 26 De 17	No 25 No 30	-
Short-eared Owl	-	-	S - No 22	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	No 30 De 22
Saw-whet Owl	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	No 8†
Poor-will	-	Jl 10 Au 26	Sp 22 Oc 3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Common Nighthawk	S - Au 29	S - Sp 16	S - Sp 10	S - Sp 10	S - Au 1	Sp 5 Sp 15	S - Oc 6	S - Sp 1	Au 24 Au 26	S - Sp 30	S - Au 30
Chimney Swift	-	S - Sp 14	-	-	S - Jl 5	S - Sp 25	S - Oc 11	S - Oc 2	S - Oc 13	S - Oc 14	-
Ruby-throated Hummingbird	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Sp 5	Au 27 Sp 21	Jl 7
Broad-tailed Hummingbird	-	Jl 28 Au 14	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Belted Kingfisher	P	P	Au 16 Oc 11	-	P	S - Sp 23	P	S - Sp 19	P	-	S - De 25
Common Flicker	P	P	S - De 4	Sp 13 Sp 30	P	P	P	P	P	-	P Au 7 Sp 10
Red-bellied Woodpecker	-	De 17 De 31	-	-	De 16	P	P	P	P	-	P De 3
Red-headed Woodpecker	S - Sp 9	S - Sp 29	S - Sp 8	-	S - Oc 29	S - Sp 15	S - Sp 24	S - Sp 19	S - W	-	S - W
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	-	De 8 De 31	-	-	No 11	-	-	-	De 30	-	Oc 11 De 27
Hairy Woodpecker	P	P	-	-	P	P	P	P	P	-	P No 30 De 2
Downy Woodpecker	P	P	P	-	P	P	P	P	P	-	P No 24 De 26
Eastern Kingbird	S - Sp 4	S - Sp 10	S - Sp 1	Au 29	S - Sp 9	S - Sp 15	S - Sp 5	S - Sp 11	S - Sp 16	S - Sp 14	-
Western Kingbird	S - Sp 23	S - Sp 23	S - Sp 2	Au 29	S - Sp 9	S - Sp 6	Jl 30	S - Sp 1	Au 27	Au 26	-
Great Crested Flycatcher	-	-	Au 24	-	-	S - Sp 3	-	-	S - Sp 1	-	S - Sp 21
Eastern Phoebe	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	S - Jl 14	Jl 30 Oc 1	Au 19 Oc 25	-
Say's Phoebe	S - Sp 9	S - Sp 10	Jl 31 Sp 16	-	Sp 9	-	-	-	-	-	-
Yellow-bellied Flycatcher	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Jl 8 Sp 14	Au 19 Sp 9	-
Willow Flycatcher	-	-	Au 25 Sp 1	Au 13	-	-	-	-	Jl 26 Sp 21	Au 1	-

	Sioux	Scotts	Gar-	McPh.	Lin-	Howard	Adams	Boone	Lan-	W	Doug-	Otoe
	Bluff	den			coln	Hall			caster	a	Sarpy	
Least Flycatcher	-	-	Jl 22 Sp 23	-	-	-	-	-	Au 1	-	Jl 20 Sp 5	-
Western Flycatcher	-	-	Sp 9	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Empidonax sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Au 27 Sp 20	-
Eastern Wood Pewee	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Jl 8 Au 25	-	S - Sp 20	-
Western Wood Pewee	S - Sp 2	S - Sp 11	S - Sp 3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Olive-sided Flycatcher	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Sp 13	-
Horned Lark	P	P	P	P	P	P	No 21 - W	P	P	-	P	-
Tree Swallow	-	-	S - Oc 23	-	-	-	-	-	-	b	Oc 7	-
Bank Swallow	-	-	Jl 11 Sp 3	-	-	Au 20 Sp 5	-	-	-	-	S - Au 30	-
Rough-winged Swallow	S - Au 29	S - Jl 28	Au 12	-	Au 5	Au 30 Sp 10	-	S - Au 30	S - Sp 1	-	S - Oc 7	-
Barn Swallow	S - Sp 25	S - Oc 6	S - Oc 14	S - Sp 7	S - Sp 30	S - Sp 17	S - Sp 5	S - Oc 6	S - Oc 5	-	S - No 4	S - Sp 3
Cliff Swallow	S - Au 29	S - Sp 3	Jl 11	-	S - Au 18	Au 25 Sp 4	-	-	Sp 1 Sp 16	-	Jl 14 Sp 23	-
Purple Martin	-	-	-	-	S - Jl 1	S - Sp 4	S - Au 25	S - Sp 16	S - Sp 14	-	S - Sp 14	S - Au 1
Blue Jay	P	P	S - Oc 16	-	P	P	P	P	P	-	P	P
Black-billed Magpie	P	P	-	-	P	P	P	P	-	-	-	-
Common Crow	P	P	Sp 29 De 18	-	P	P	P	P	P	-	P	-
Pinon Jay	P	P	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Clark's Nutcracker	-	De 18	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Black-capped Chickadee	P	P	Jl 29	-	P	P	P	P	P	-	P	No 15 De 30
Tufted Titmouse	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	P	No 16 De 30
White-breasted Nuthatch	P	-	-	-	De 16	Oc 5 - W	P	P	P	-	P	No 24 De 30
Red-breasted Nuthatch	P	Jl 5 - W	Jl 16 Oc 12	-	Oc 23 De 16	Oc 15 - W	De 16	-	Sp 19 De 26	-	Sp 25 - W	-
Brown Creeper	-	De 16	-	-	Oc 27	Oc 11 - W	Oc 27 - W	No 6	Sp 28 De 17	-	P	-
House Wren	S - Sp 21	S - Sp 11	Au 20 Sp 27	-	S - Sp 30	S - Sp 12	S - Sp 29	S - Sp 25	S - Oc 19	-	S - Oc 22	-
Winter Wren	Oc 21	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	De 17	-	No 8 No 29	-
Carolina Wren	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Sp 30	-
Long-billed Marsh Wren	S - Au 23	-	S - Oc 8	-	-	-	-	-	Oc 1	-	Sp 19 Oc 10	-

	S	i	s	c	G	M	L	H	A	B	Lan-	Doug-	Otoe
	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Short-billed Marsh Wren	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Au 5 - J1 29 -	-	-
Rock Wren	S - Oc 6	S - Au 29	S - Sp 21	S No 2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Mockingbird	-	S Sp 11	S No 2	S Au 16	-	-	Au 3 Sp 6	-	-	-	S - Sp 6	- De 31	-
Gray Catbird	S - Sp 9	S Sp 24	S Sp 7	S Sp 30	S Sp 26	J1 7 Sp 14	S - Sp 22	S - Sp 29	S - Sp 28	S - Sp 22	S - Oc 12	-	-
Brown Thrasher	S - Sp 9	S - Sp 15	S - No 5	S - Sp 15	S - Sp 26	S - De 31	S - Sp 23	S - De 26	S - Sp 25	S - De 17	S - De 31	S - Au 1	-
Sage Thrasher	-	-	Au 24	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
American Robin	S - Oc 15	P	S - No 22	S - Oc 10	S - De 16	S - De 3	S - No 9	S - No 16	S - De 21	S - De 28	S - Sp 1	-	-
Wood Thrush	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	S - Oc 6	-	-
Hermit Thrush	-	-	S Oc 12	-	-	-	-	-	-	Oc 24	-	Oc 18	-
Swainson's Thrush	S - Sp 21	-	S Sp 19	S Sp 24	-	-	-	-	-	S Sp 21	-	J1 29	-
Gray-cheeked Thrush	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Sp 20	-
Weery	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Sp 21	-
Eastern Bluebird	-	-	-	-	-	S De 16	P	-	-	S Oc 21	-	No 22	-
Mountain Bluebird	S - Oc 16	S Sp 21	Oc 28	-	Oc 13	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Townsend's Solitaire	S Sp 16	S Sp 22	S W	S Sp 17	S Sp 30	Au 23 De 16	S Sp 20	-	De 25	De 17	-	De 20	-
Golden-crowned Kinglet	-	-	Oc 4 No 6	-	-	-	-	-	-	Oc 25 - W	d Oc 9	-	-
Ruby-crowned Kinglet	-	-	S Oc 12	S Sp 23	S Sp 21	-	S Sp 23	Oc 23	S Sp 25	S Sp 21	d Sp 20	De 17	-
Water Pipit	-	Oc 3 No 6	Oc 1 Oc 24	-	Oc 21	-	-	-	-	Oc 1 Oc 26	-	-	-
Bohemian Waxwing	-	Oc 26 No 8	De 11	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cedar Waxwing	-	Oc 9 De 16	Au 2 Oc 8	S Sp 23	No 1 S - W	S Sp 23	De 26	-	-	-	S - De 1	-	-
Northern Shrike	Oc 15 - W	Oc 14 - W	No 1 - W	-	De 16	-	-	-	De 26 De 31	-	-	-	-
Shrike sp.	-	-	-	-	Oc 27	-	-	-	Oc 19 De 13	-	-	-	-
Loggerhead Shrike	S - Sp 21	S - Sp 29	S - Sp 15	S - J1 1	J1 16	Au 10 Sp 30	S Sp 5	-	S De 17	-	S Sp 25	-	-
Starling	P	P	J1 23 De 18	S - Oc 10	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	-	-
White-eyed Vireo	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	J1 4	-	-	-
Bell's Vireo	-	Au 28	J1 17	-	S - Sp 4	-	-	-	-	Au 21 Au 25	-	Sp 2	-
Yellow-throated Vireo	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	S - Au 27	-	-

	Sioux Bluff	Scotts den	Gar- den	McPh. coln	Lin- Hall	Howard Hall	Adams	Boone	Lan- caster	W Doug- a Sarpy	Otoe
American Redstart	S - Sp 21	-	Au 11 Sp 9	Au 27 Sp 5	Sp 29	-	-	-	-	a S - Sp 20	-
House Sparrow	P	P	S - Jl 21	P	P	P	P	P	P	- P	P
Bobolink	-	-	S - Au 18	-	Jl 15 Jl 28	S - Au 2	-	-	-	-	-
Eastern Meadowlark	-	-	S - Sp 21	-	-	S - Au 2	-	-	P	- S - De 21	-
Meadowlark sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	P	-	-	- P	-
Western Meadowlark	S - No 29	P	S - No 9	S - Oc 2	P	S - De 28	-	P	P	- S - No 30	-
Yellow-headed Blackbird	S - Sp 10	S - Sp 18	S - Sp 14	S - Oc 10	Sp 30	Sp 20 Sp 23	S - Jl 16	S - Sp 20	Au 5 Oc 5	S - Oc 5	-
Red-winged Blackbird	S - No 29	P	P	S - Oc 10	S - De 17	S - Au 30	S - De 16	P	S - De 17	d S - e De 27	S - Jl 3
Orchard Oriole	S - Au 23	S - Au 16	S - Au 23	S - Jl 1	S - Sp 18	S - Au 28	S - Jl 30	S - Au 22	S - Sp 1	S - Au 25	-
Northern Oriole	S - Au 16	S - Sp 9	S - Sp 7	-	S - Sp 18	S - Sp 4	S - Sp 17	S - Sp 7	S - Sp 13	S - Sp 13	-
Rusty Blackbird	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	No 15 De 17	d No 5 De 17	-
Brewer's Blackbird	-	Oc 14	Sp 30	-	No 5	-	-	-	-	e Oc 28 De 14	-
Great-tailed Grackle	-	-	-	-	-	-	S - Jl 16	-	-	-	-
Common Grackle	S - Sp 23	S - De 31	S - Oc 21	S - Oc 6	S - De 16	S - De 3	P	S - Sp 29	S - De 17	S - De 27	S - Sp 20
Brown-headed Cowbird	S - Sp 2	S - Sp 26	S - Jl 20	-	S - Oc 1	S - Sp 4	S - Sp 5	S - Au 29	S - W	S - De 30	-
Western Tanager	S - Au 14	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Scarlet Tanager	-	-	-	-	-	S - Au 7	-	-	-	S - Oc 2	-
Cardinal	-	-	-	-	P	P	P	P	P	-	No 1 De 30
Rose-breasted Grosbeak	-	-	-	-	-	S - Au 10	S - Jl 30	S - Au 31	S - Au 25	S - Oc 2	-
Black-headed Grosbeak	S - Au 29	-	-	-	S - Au 3	-	-	-	De 17	-	-
Blue Grosbeak	Au 29	S - Sp 26	S - Au 23	-	-	-	-	S - Sp 1	-	S - Au 30	-
Indigo Bunting	-	-	-	-	-	S - Jl 5	-	S - Au 15	S - Au 15	S - Sp 3	-
Lazuli Bunting	-	S - Jl 6	Au 25	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dickcissel	-	-	Jl 17	S - Jl 21	S - Jl 14	S - Au 20	S - Jl 30	S - Au 17	S - Sp 1	S - Oc 3	S - Au 20
Evening Grosbeak	-	Oc 30	Oc 28	-	De 16 De 30	-	-	-	-	- No 18 De 6	-
Purple Finch	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	No 6 - W	- Oc 21 - W	-
House Finch	-	P	-	-	P	-	-	-	-	-	-

	Sioux Bluff	Scotts den	Gar- den	McPh.	Lin- coln	Howard Hall	Adams	Boone	Lan- caster	W Doug- a Sarpy	Otoe
Common Redpoll	-	-	-	-	-	-	De 16	-	-	-	-
Pine Siskin	S - Oc 14	P	Oc 3 Oc 26	-	Oc 27 - W	-	De 26	De 6 De 8	De 17 - W	- No 27 - W	-
American Goldfinch	S - Oc 14	P	S - De 15	-	P	P	P	P	P	- P	-
Rufous-sided Towhee	S - Oc 15	S - Oc 15	Sp 24 Oc 14	Sp 23 Oc 12	Sp 29 Oc 9	S - Sp 23	-	Sp 27 Oc 4	Sp 30 De 17	- S - - W	-
Lark	S - Sp 9	S - Oc 14	S - Sp 2	S - Jl 1	Jl 16 Jl 26	S - Sp 4	-	-	-	-	-
Bunting	Sp 9	Oc 14	Sp 2	Jl 1	Sp 4	Au 15	-	-	-	-	-
Savannah Sparrow	Sp 5	-	Sp 14 Oc 8	Sp 20	-	-	-	Sp 13 Oc 9	-	- Sp 19 No 2	-
Grasshopper Sparrow	-	-	S - Sp 2	Jl 1 Jl 26	Jl 23 Au 4	S - Sp 23	-	Jl 1 Jl 10	S - Sp 23	- Au 20	-
Baird's Sparrow	-	-	-	-	Sp 30	-	-	-	-	-	-
Le Conte's Sparrow	-	-	-	Jl 25 Jl 27	-	-	-	-	Oc 1 Oc 21	- Oc 1 Oc 21	-
Sharp-tailed Sparrow	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Oc 1	-	-
Vesper Sparrow	Sp 25 Sp 30	Sp 14 Sp 30	Au 26 Sp 30	-	Sp 30	-	-	-	-	- Au 20 Oc 21	-
Lark Sparrow	S - Sp 16	S - Au 27	S - Sp 3	S - Sp 1	Au 28 Au 13	S - Au 13	-	S - Jl 10	S - Au 20	-	-
Dark-eyed Junco	Oc 6 - W	Sp 17 - W	Sp 24 - W	Sp 16 Oc 28	Sp 27 - W	Oc 19 - W	Oc 8 - W	Oc 5 - W	Oc 10 - W	- Oc 7 - W	No 29 - W
Gray-headed Junco	-	-	-	-	Oc 21 De 3	-	-	-	-	-	-
Tree Sparrow	Oc 26 - W	Oc 3 - W	Oc 22 - W	-	Oc 27 - W	No 20 - W	De 16 - W	Oc 18 - W	No 2 - W	- Oc 21 - W	-
Chipping Sparrow	S - Sp 21	S - Oc 14	Au 6 Oc 22	-	Sp 9 Au 10	S - Au 10	Jl 30 Au 29	S - Jl 23	- S - Oc 4	- S - Oc 4	-
Clay-colored Sparrow	Sp 9 Oc 14	Sp 8 Sp 10	Au 25 Oc 1	Sp 18 Oc 1	Jl 23 No 10	No 3 No 10	-	Sp 13 Sp 28	-	-	-
Field Sparrow	-	-	-	Sp 22 Oc 8	-	S - Sp 23	De 16	S - Au 19	S - Sp 30	- a S - Oc 10	-
Harris' Sparrow	-	Oc 7 - W	Oc 12 No 4	Oc 2 Oc 8	Oc 27 - W	No 9 - W	De 16	Oc 6 - W	Oc 16 - W	- Oc 1 - W	No 30
White-crowned Sparrow	-	Oc 7 De 30	Sp 23 Oc 22	Sp 14 Oc 10	Oc 13 De 30	No 9 De 10	-	Oc 9 Oc 18	Oc 12 De 17	- Sp 25 -	-
White-throated Sparrow	-	Oc 14 No 23	No 21 Oc 8	7 Oc 8	-	No 25 De 10	Oc 2 De 29	Sp 25 Oc 30	Oc 10 De 31	- Sp 25 De 30	-
Fox Sparrow	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Oc 20 No 6	Oc 10 De 31	- Oc 6 -	-
Lincoln's Sparrow	Sp 13 Sp 21	-	Sp 23 Oc 2	-	-	-	-	Sp 20 Oc 20	Sp 26 Oc 19	- Sp 20 De 23	-
Swamp Sparrow	-	-	S - Sp 1	-	-	-	-	-	Oc 2 De 17	- Sp 28 Oc 21	-
Song Sparrow	Au 29 De 19	Sp 8 No 20	Au 18 No 20	Sp 23	Sp 9	-	-	P	Sp 21 De 17	- P	-
McDonn's Longspur	S - Oc 21	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Lapland Longspur	-	No 15 No 16	No 8 No 16	-	-	-	De 16	Oc 9 - W	De 17	- De 16	-
Smith's Longspur	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	De 17	-	-
Chestnut-col- lared Longspur	S - Oc 21	-	Sp 23 Oc 9	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Snow Bunting	-	De 16	-	-	-	-	-	-	De 17	-	-

Sparrow, which showed a considerable amount of white on the wings and back. She left for the winter in mid-October, so that the winter birds are not fully represented.

Otoe, Nebraska City, 29 species. Mrs. Elmer Conkling, reporter. Mr. Glenn LeDioyt, of Omaha, saw the Cattle Egrets just across the bridge from Nebraska City, and also another group farther north on I-29. This was on a Friday, when he was with other people and couldn't spend time checking them out. On Monday he could determine that there were about eight in the group. The following Saturday the Diggsses, of Hamburg, Iowa, found twelve in the group.

Sarpy, see Douglas.

Scotts Bluff, Scottsbluff, 149 species. Mrs. Roy J. Witschy and C. Fred Zeilemaker, reporters. Mrs. M.A. Banghart, Lydia E. Bolz, Mrs. J.J. Brashear, Mrs. Lee Kenitz, Sherry K. McCoy, Everett F. Russell.

Sioux, Mitchell RFD, 105 species. David and Helen (reporter) Hughson.

Washington, DeSoto National Wildlife Refuge, 25 species, Babs and Loren Padelford, reporters. These are records from five visits to the Refuge by the Padelfords. Christmas Count records which were not included in the Padelford's report were not included because the count area includes more of Iowa than is usually covered in the Occurrence Reports.

ADDITION TO 1978 SPRING MIGRATION REPORT. The following line was left out of the 1978 Spring Migration Report (*NBR* 46:69-70): Redhead Sioux 3/27, Scottsbluff 3/24-6/6, Sheridan 6/17-18, Garden 3/19-S, Cherry 3/18, McPherson 5/29-6/30, Lincoln 3/27, Custer 4/3-5/1, Adams 5/21, Boone 4/4, Lancaster 3/26-3/30, York 5/19, Douglas-Sarpy 3/26-5/13, Otoe 3/2.

1978 CHRISTMAS COUNT

One hundred and three species (five more than last year) were reported in the 1978 Christmas Count. Last year there were three species reported present but not seen on the count, while this year all those not seen on one count were seen on some other count. This increase was made with one less counting station - Kearney's count fell prey to the weather this year. Had any of the Meadowlark species been identified as Easterns, or any of the Duck, Buteo, Falcon, or Blackbird species been identified as species not reported the count would have been increased. Species reported this year but not last year are: Lesser Scaup, Bufflehead, Hooded Merganser, Goshawk, Sharp-tailed Grouse, Sandhill Crane, American Coot, Mockingbird, Brown Thrasher, Hermit Thrush, Ruby-crowned Kinglet, Bohemian Waxwing, Yellow-rumped Warbler, Black-headed Grosbeak, Gray-crowned Rosy Finch, and Smith's Longspur. Those reported last year but not this year are: Black Duck, Gadwall, Green-winged Teal, American Wigeon, Red-breasted Merganser, Killdeer, Osprey, Herring Gull, Saw-whet Owl, Carolina Wren, Mountain Bluebird, Savannah Sparrow, Gray-headed Junco, and Chipping Sparrow.

The individual count is way down this year, primarily because the high Red-winged Blackbird count at North Platte was not repeated this year. The Mallard count was way down at DeSoto NWR; Starlings were down, primarily at Lincoln; and there were smaller decreases scattered over other species. The Lapland Longspur count was way up this year, primarily at Lincoln, and Horned Larks were much more common in the eastern part this year, except at DeSoto NWR, where the count was down about 50%.

The columns are arranged in an approximate west (left) to east (right) order, with the northernmost location of those of about equal longitude given first. The symbol "H" is used to indicate a species present during the count period but not recorded on the count day.

Crawford, 23 December. A 15-mile diameter circle with its center in the southeast corner of town, to include parts of the White River valley and of the Pine Ridge at Fort Robinson State Park, Cochran State Wayside Area, Ponderosa Wildlife Management Area, and Crow Butte; elevation 3500 to 4000 feet; habitat coverage: open prairie 33%, riparian woodland 30%, residential 18%, coniferous woodland 15%, cropland 4%. 6:15 A.M. to 4:30 P.M.; A.M.: overcast, intermittent light snow; P.M.: mostly cloudy, intermittent light snow. Temperature 10°-29°F.

— Text continued on p. 36

	Craw- ford	Scotts- bluff	North Platte	Hast- ings	Lin- coln	DeSoto NWR	Omaha	Total
Great Blue Heron	-	-	2	-	1	3	-	6
American Bittern	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1
Canada Goose	-	212	446	-	2	-	230	890
White-fronted Goose	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	2
Snow Goose	-	1	-	-	2	1	1,861	1,865
Mallard	4	580	874	-	89	5,334	2,755	9,636
Pintail	-	3	-	-	-	2	-	5
Wood Duck	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	2
Lesser Scaup	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	2
Common Goldeneye	-	-	11	-	-	-	68	79
Bufflehead	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1
Duck sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	4,676	4,676
Hooded Merganser	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
Common Merganser	-	-	1	-	-	-	9	10
Goshawk	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	2
Sharp-shinned Hawk	H	-	-	-	3	3	-	6
Cooper's Hawk	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	3
Red-tailed Hawk	-	2	8	2	27	12	64	115
Swainson's Hawk	-	-	-	1	-	-	2	3
Rough-legged Hawk	1	5	1	1	5	1	9	23
Buteo sp.	-	-	-	-	1	-	2	3
Golden Eagle	5	-	1	-	-	-	-	6
Bald Eagle	1	3	15	-	-	7	16	42
Marsh Hawk	-	-	1	8	18	5	6	38
Prairie Falcon	H	2	-	-	1	-	-	3
Merlin	-	2	1	-	1	-	-	4
American Kestrel	-	6	20	2	10	11	32	81
Falcon sp.	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1
Greater Prairie Chicken	-	-	37	-	-	-	-	37
Sharp-tailed Grouse	46	-	5	-	-	-	-	51
Bobwhite	-	-	27	20	44	39	99	229
Ring-necked Pheasant	23	1	9	7	44	79	6	169
Turkey	H	-	14	-	-	-	-	14
Sandhill Crane	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	2
American Coot	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	2
Common Snipe	1	2	-	-	-	-	-	3
Ring-billed Gull	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1
Rock Dove	17	103	74	80	230	178	434	1,116
Mourning Dove	2	-	-	H	303	3	223	531
Screech Owl	2	1	-	-	33	1	6	43
Great Horned Owl	3	5	1	1	13	1	8	32
Barred Owl	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	2

	Craw- ford	Scotts- bluff	North Platte	Hast- ings	Lin- coln	DeSoto NWR	Omaha	Total
Long-eared Owl	-	-	-	-	5	-	-	5
Short-eared Owl	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	2
Belted Kingfisher	-	1	1	1	6	-	2	11
Common Flicker	5	39	39	7	32	90	152	364
Yellow-shafted					(18)	(89)	(150)	(257)
Red-shafted					(7)	(1)	(2)	(10)
Red-bellied Woodpecker	-	-	1	1	14	27	48	91
Red-headed Woodpecker	-	-	-	-	1	2	23	26
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	-	2	-	-	-	-	4	6
Hairy Woodpecker	13	-	1	H	17	5	18	54
Downy Woodpecker	13	5	1	5	46	67	131	268
Horned Lark	145	61	268	968	3,238	1,009	1,385	7,074
Blue Jay	1	20	5	5	93	85	139	348
Black-billed Magpie	54	40	16	2	-	-	-	112
Common Crow	126	185	129	26	192	56	162	876
Pinon Jay	170	20	-	-	-	-	-	190
Black-capped Chickadee	119	28	17	16	252	117	448	997
Tufted Titmouse	-	-	-	-	-	-	36	36
White-breasted Nuthatch	1	-	1	3	34	35	75	149
Red-breasted Nuthatch	3	-	-	1	3	-	1	8
Pygmy Nuthatch	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	6
Brown Creeper	-	1	-	2	16	2	12	33
Winter Wren	1	-	-	-	1	-	3	5
Mockingbird	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
Brown Thrasher	-	-	1	-	1	-	1	3
American Robin	18	91	262	-	21	1	1	394
Hermit Thrush	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
Eastern Bluebird	-	-	53	-	-	-	-	53
Townsend's Solitaire	12	5	1	-	3	-	-	21
Golden-crowned Kinglet	-	-	-	-	3	-	6	9
Ruby-crowned Kinglet	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
Bohemian Waxwing	300	-	-	-	-	-	-	300
Cedar Waxwing	-	20	-	-	-	26	-	46
Northern Shrike	10	2	1	-	-	-	-	13
Loggerhead Shrike	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1
Starling	139	1,465	2,968	552	2,530	1,005	1,680	10,339
Yellow-rumped Warbler	-	-	-	-	1	-	2	3
House Sparrow	283	1,063	579	342	3,588	3,271	1,045	10,171
Western Meadowlark	1	26	-	-	1	-	-	28
Meadowlark sp.	-	-	74	88	289	145	130	726
Red-winged Blackbird	14	116	3,530	30	1	516	2,267	6,474
Rusty Blackbird	-	-	-	-	-	-	10	10
Brewer's Blackbird	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	3

	Craw- ford	Scotts- bluff	North Platte	Hast- ings	Lin- coln	DeSoto NWR	Omaha	Total
Common Grackle	-	5	4	3	17	3	8	40
Brown-headed Cowbird	-	-	-	-	5	-	3	8
Blackbird sp.	-	-	-	-	102	-	32	134
Cardinal	-	-	7	10	76	63	139	295
Black-headed Grosbeak	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1
Evening Grosbeak	16	-	1	-	-	-	-	17
Purple Finch	-	-	-	-	12	1	9	22
House Finch	1	80	17	-	-	-	-	98
Gray-crowned Rosy Finch	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Common Redpoll	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	2
Pine Siskin	162	22	3	1	1	16	19	224
American Goldfinch	342	50	22	2	82	215	94	807
Red Crossbill	15	-	-	-	-	-	-	15
Rufous-sided Towhee	-	-	-	-	1	3	2	6
Dark-eyed Junco	135	88	79	41	454	579	571	1,947
White-winged	(15)							(15)
Slate-colored	(26)			(41)	(447)	(579)	(569)	(1,662)
Oregon	(94)			H	(7)		(2)	(103)
Tree Sparrow	266	146	82	25	1,409	494	516	2,938
Field Sparrow	-	-	-	6	1	-	-	7
Harris' Sparrow	2	-	5	40	242	63	10	362
White-crowned Sparrow	-	4	-	-	4	-	-	8
White-throated Sparrow	-	-	-	-	6	-	3	9
Swamp Sparrow	-	-	-	-	13	-	-	13
Song Sparrow	2	1	-	-	9	13	15	40
Lapland Longspur	1	-	-	25	23,452	24	501	24,003
Smith's Longspur	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	3
Snow Bunting	-	2	-	-	2	-	-	4
Species Reported	44	46	51	35	67	47	59	103
Additional Races Reported	2	-	-	-	2	1	2	3
Present but not seen	3	-	-	2	-	-	-	-
Total Individuals	2,483	4,521	9,720	2,326	37,118	13,619	20,213	90,000

Wind variable, 5-25 mph. Snow cover 4-10". Fresh water partly open. Wild food crop fair. Six observers in 5 parties. Total party-hours, 44 (13 on foot, 31 by car); total party-miles, 377 (16 on foot, 361 by car). Doris Gates, Chadron, reporter. Marj Blinde and Ardelle and Dan McPherson were with Miss Gates, but other participants were not named. Three of the Golden Eagles were immatures, 2 unknown, and the Bald Eagle was an adult.

DeSoto National Wildlife Refuge, 21 December. A 15-mile diameter circle, centered on Refuge headquarters building, west to Blair, and east to Missouri Valley, Iowa, including all of DeSoto Refuge, Wilson Island, and Fort Calhoun; elevation 992 to 1375 feet; habitat coverage: cultivated fields 50%, woodlands 35%, water areas 10%, residential 5%. 6:45 A.M. to 5:15 P.M.;

clear A.M. and P.M. Temperature 12°-36°F. Wind calm. Snow cover .25-2". Fresh water frozen. Wild food crop fair. Twenty observers, 20 in 5 parties, 1 at feeder. Total party hours, 48.5 (23 on foot, 25.5 by car) plus 8 hours at feeder, 6 owling; total party-miles, 347.5 (22.5 on foot, 325 by car). Len Binkel, Hal Chase, Donnie Cleveland, Ruth Gochenour, Jan Greer, George Grube, Fr. Thomas A. Hoffman, Eunice Kawamoto, Jim and Sandy Kovanda, Dave Menke (reporter), Steve Moorman, Babs Padelford, Neal S. Ratzlaff, Janice Schmol, Roger Sharpe, Ross Silcock, Lynne Vacanti, Barb Wilson, Jerry Yandell. Six of the Bald Eagles were adults, one an immature.

Hastings, 16 December. A 15-mile diameter circle with its center south of town, 1.5 miles south of Highway 6 and .5 miles east of Highway 281, which includes the city parks, Parkview Cemetery, Crystal Lake Recreation Grounds, fields and pastures, woodlands along the Little Blue River, and lagoons west of Glenvil. 8 A.M. to 4 P.M.; clear all day, 24°-32°F.; wind WNW 5-15 mph.; snow cover 0-3". Fresh water partly open, wild food crop fair. Ten observers, 7 in 4 parties, 3 at feeders. Total party-hours 10.25 (2.75 on foot, 7.5 by car); total party-miles 127 (6 on foot, 122 by car). Mrs. A.A. Alberts, Mrs. Floyd Butler, Mrs. Wm. Helzer, Mrs. M. Horigan, Helen Kucera, Mr. and Mrs. Eldon Percival, Mrs. O.W. Ritchey, Carl Throckmorton, Bernice Welch (reporter).

Lincoln, 17 December. A 15-mile diameter circle, centered on South Codington and West A Street, to include Pioneers Park, about 8 miles of Wilderness Park, Lagoon Park, Yankee Lake and Conestoga Lake areas, eastern half of Pawnee Lake, and Wyuka Cemetery; elevation 1000 to 1300 feet; habitat coverage: deciduous woods 38%, weedy draws 20%, harvested corn and milo fields 20%, coniferous woods 10%, lakes and streams 10%, mixed woods and cemeteries 2%. 3:30 A.M. to 7:30 P.M.: Clear A.M., mostly cloudy P.M.; Temperature 18°-45°F. Wind south 5-20 mph. Zero to 6" of crusted ice and snow. Lakes, 98% frozen; Salt Creek 90% frozen south of Lincoln, 100% open northeast of Lincoln. Wild food crop poor. Twenty-six observers, 25 in 10 parties, 1 at feeder. Total party-hours, 80 (54.5 on foot, 25.5 by car) plus 8 hours at feeder and 6 owling; total party miles, 402.5 (71 on foot, 331.5 by car). Naomi Brill, Lewis Cartee, Cindy and Dave Cochran, Daryl and Margaret Giblin, Everett and Mildred Gross, David Harrington, Ralph (reporter) and Ellen Harrington, Arnold and Esther Hein, Craig Herzinger, Mike Kaspari, Tim Knott, Bernice Large, Pete Maslowski, Jane Mock, Lee Morris, Rosalind Morris, John and Mabel Ott, Ken Reitan, Hazel Schreiber, and Francis Taylor. The Lapland Longspurs and the Horned Larks were in mixed flocks; the Longspurs were gone by early January. The Great Blue Heron and the Prairie Falcon were seen near Lagoon Park by Ralph and Ellen Harrington and Lee Morris; Ralph Harrington saw a Solitaire in Wyuka Cemetery and the Otts saw 2 in Pioneers Park; the Black-headed Grosbeak was seen near Conestoga Lake by the Heins, who were within 50 feet of it; and the Yellow-rumped Warbler was seen in some red cedars near Denton by the Giblins, who also saw the Bittern. One of the Snow Geese was the blue form, the other white. One of the Red-tailed Hawks was a Harlan's.

North Platte, 16 December. A 15-mile diameter circle, centered at the Court House. 8 A.M. to 5 P.M.; clear. Temperature 17°-33°F. Wind 10-15 mph. from NW. Snow cover 1-10". Ten observers in 5 parties. Mrs. Howard Wyman, reporter. The Golden Eagle was an immature; 10 of the Bald Eagles were adults, 5 immatures.

Omaha, 16 December. A 15-mile diameter circle centered at Offutt Base Lake, to include Fontenelle Forest, Lake Manawa (Iowa) State Park, Plattsmouth Waterfowl Refuge, and portions of the Platte and Missouri rivers; habitat coverage: woodlands 53%, cultivated fields 25%, grassy fields and meadows 6%, rivers and lakes 7%. 3:30 A.M. to 5:00 P.M.; mostly sunny. Temperature 22°-37°F. Wind west 6-12 mph. Snow cover 3-4". Rivers and some streams open, lakes and ponds frozen. Forty-three observers in 11 parties. Total party-hours, 94 (51.5 on foot, 42.5 by car) plus 4 hours owling; total party miles 417 (51 on foot, 366 by car). Steve Bellinghiere, Diane Berlett, Reid Boyle, Tanya Bray, Duane Bright, Hal Chase, Evelyn Conrad, R.G. Cortelyou, James Delehant, John Dinan, Jim Glather, Donna Gnadt, Marg Graf, Ruth Green, Janet Greer, Alan and Betty Grenon, Mike Heaney, Fr. Thomas Hoffman, Mary Huebner, Clyde and Emma Johnson, Gladys Johnson, Diane Jones, Eunice and JoAnne Kawamoto, Jim and Sandy Kovanda, Marian Meier, Babs and Loren Padelford, Margaret Perry, Neal Ratzlaff, Linda Riner, Harold and Marilyn Rock, Elva Sheard, Lorraine Shorney, John and Marlene

Weber, Melba Wigg (reporter), Gertrude Wood, and Rock Wright. One Swainson's Hawk was seen in Fontenelle Forest about mid-morning by Eunice Kawamoto, the other east of Lake Manawa about an hour later by Marian Meier and Tanya Bray, but the descriptions indicate they were different birds. The Mockingbird was seen just before noon, on Pony Creek about a mile below the dam, in good light, at about 40 yards. It was seen walking on the ground and in flight by the Padelfords and Jim Glather. The Hooded Merganser was seen on the Missouri around 10 A.M., with the sun about at the backs of the observers, Micheal Heaney and Harold Rock. It was seen at distances of about 40 feet to about 40 yards. It was first assumed to be a Goldeneye, but the lack of the wing whistle caused them to observe it more closely, particularly noting that the white spot was behind the eye. Eleven of the Bald Eagles were adults, 5 immatures.

Scottsbluff, 16 December. A 15-mile diameter circle centered on the bridge across the North Platte River at South Broadway, to include Scottsbluff and Gering. 7:15 A.M. to 4:15 P.M.; clear. Temperature 15°-35°F. Wind NW 4-20 mph. Snow cover 1-3". Fresh water open, lakes and ponds mostly frozen. Seven observers in 3 parties, 6 at feeders. Mrs. Harry Banghart, Lydia E. Bolz, Mrs. J.J. Brashear, A.L. Hadwiger, Mrs. Walter Harvey, Mrs. Lee Kenitz, Mrs. Wallace Marking, Grant Newbold, Mrs. M.A. Smith, Mrs. Ed. Williamson, Mr. and Mrs. Roy Witschy (reporter), O.C. Yeakley. The 3 Bald Eagles were adults.

SOME COMMENTS ON "THE BREEDING BIRDS OF NEBRASKA"

The recent paper by Johnsgard (*NBR* 47:3) is an interesting and much-needed summary of the state of Nebraska's breeding birds. I would like to make some comments on a few of the species listed.

RED-SHOULDERED HAWK. Johnsgard places this species in the category "Extinct and Formerly Breeding Species", stating that while there are some early records (citing a 1904 publication), there is "no recent evidence of breeding in the state". I am inclined to agree with this assessment, but must mention that there are relatively recent records published in *NBR* of breeding in eastern Nebraska. Two nesting attempts near Carter Lake in 1958 were reported by Cortelyou (*NBR* 27:31), and young were seen in Douglas County in 1964, reported by Cortelyou and LeDioyt (*NBR* 33:10). Furthermore, this species was reported in the Spring and Fall Occurrence Reports in *NBR* as present throughout summer in Douglas County 1959-63, Douglas-Sarpy counties 1964-71, and in Gage County in 1966. Since 1971, however, it has been reported only as a migrant.

I question the regularity with which this species is reported in *NBR*, bearing in mind that Whitney et al (1978) list only nine all-time records for South Dakota, the two most recent being in 1955 and 1975. Furthermore, in southwest Iowa, it has been reported but twice since 1962: one was seen in April 1962 (*Iowa Bird Life* 34:86); four (no details were published) were reported on the Shenandoah Christmas Bird Count in 1970 (*IBL* 41:8); and one was seen well by three observers, including me, on 3 February 1979 in Fremont County (Iowa) during the 1979 State Raptor Survey (*IBL* in press).

In summary, I believe that Red-Shouldered Hawks are rarer in this area than recent data published in *NBR* would indicate, and thus I agree with the placement of this species in the "Extinct and Formerly Breeding Species" category.

BLACK RAIL. This species is listed by Johnsgard as a "Hypothetical Breeder" in Nebraska. Of interest in this regard is the following comment by Bryant regarding Black Rails seen by him during his farming operations in Plymouth County, Iowa (*IBL* 32:87): "The best chance I had to observe one was the summer of 1959 when I was mowing alfalfa in a field adjoining a creek . . . I am not able to say for sure if the Black Rails I see are resident or migratory. I suspect the one in the alfalfa field was nesting there but can furnish no proof whatsoever."

SAW-WHET OWL. This species is also listed by Johnsgard as a "Hypothetical Breeder" in Nebraska, and he states that "no actual records of breeding in Nebraska exist for this species". There is indeed a record, for about 1893, as Carriker stated (*Proc. NOU* 1:33) that a set of eggs had been taken "about seven years ago" near Nebraska City. While this is a very old record, Johnston (1965) cites a record of adults and young in Wyandotte County, Kansas in 1951.

YELLOW-BELLIED FLYCATCHER. It seems astounding that breeding of this species may have occurred in both Sarpy and Lancaster counties in 1978, and, as suggested by Johnsgard, information regarding identification must be published to substantiate these reports. However, some evidence obtained from the Fremont County Foray in 1978 adds some credence to these breeding reports. Two separate groups of observers heard a singing bird of this species in Waubensie State Park, in the same general area, on two different days, 2 and 5 June 1978 (*IBL* in press). Identification was made with extreme care, by comparison of the upward-slurred notes of the Yellow-bellied Flycatcher with the notes of the Eastern Pewee singing in the area. Difference in tone could be discerned without difficulty. There remains the possibility that the bird, or birds, heard in Fremont County may have been late migrants, of course.

LOUISIANA WATERTHRUSH. I find it surprising that this species is omitted entirely from Johnsgard's paper. Definite evidence for breeding in Waubensie State Park, Fremont County, Iowa, was obtained in 1977 when adults were seen to feed a fledged bird, and a young bird capable of flight was netted nearby (*IBL* 47:130). Two, and possibly three, pairs of adults were in the same areas in 1978, as found during the Fremont County Foray (*IBL* in press). These sightings, together with the observations of birds in Douglas-Sarpy counties (presumably in Fontenelle Forest) in 1967-69 published in the Spring and Fall Occurrence Reports in *NBR* would surely give reason to include this species at least as a "Hypothetical Breeder" in Nebraska.

— W. Ross Silcock, Malvern, Iowa

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 Whitney, N.R., Jr., B.E. Harrall, B.K. Harris, N. Holden, J.W. Johnson, B.J. Rose, P.F. Springer. 1978 The Birds of South Dakota. The South Dakota Ornithologists' Union, Vermillion, South Dakota.

A SECOND NESTING RECORD FOR MERLINS IN NEBRASKA

On 9 June 1978, while I was examining a Prairie Falcon (*Falco mexicanus*) nest in Fort Robinson State Park, I heard the excited calls of a Merlin (*Falco columbarius*) to the north, approximately 100-200 yards. Closer investigation revealed a pair of Merlins defending several large pine trees, three of which each contained an old Magpie nest. In the second tree I climbed I found four nestlings approximately one day old and one egg not yet hatched. The young were not located on top of the Magpie nest, but were within the top half. The adult Merlins were entering the nest from the side.

The nest tree, a 40-foot ponderosa pine, was located on an east-facing slope, near the top of a ridge that overlooked a canyon below. The nearest trees were located at least 20 feet away.

This nest is approximately 1.5 miles from the active Merlin nest found on 13 June 1975 (*NBR* 43:78). That nest has been checked each summer since its discovery and found to be inactive.

During the past two summers of raptor nesting investigation I have on two occasions observed Merlins at two locations in the Pine Ridge: northwest of Crawford, in Sioux County, and southeast of Crawford, in Dawes County. Both observations were made in the month of June and occurred within the forest. Attempts were made to locate nests, but to no avail.

These observations seem to indicate that nesting Merlins in the Pine Ridge may be more prevalent than previously believed. It is also possible that since there are no known pre-1975 records of nesting Merlins in the Pine Ridge, this species may be expanding its breeding range into northwest Nebraska, possibly from the Black Hills in South Dakota.

— Ross Lock, Game and Parks Commission, Lincoln

GREAT BLACK-BACKED GULL NEAR OMAHA

On 6 December 1978 I was viewing a Glaucous Gull at Lake Manawa (Iowa) when a gull that was the same size as the Glaucous landed on the edge of the ice, about five feet away from it. I immediately noticed the striking contrast between the head coloring, which extended down into the breast, to its darker back. The over-all conformation of this bird was what I would describe as

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rather chunky. The next thing I observed was the heavy and large bill, which was totally black. The upper mandible was down-curved, but not the lower. The size and shape were much different from that of a Herring Gull. The mantle was a brownish and lighter color than the blackish primary and secondary wing feathers. This bird had a white rump patch with a black band on the tail, edged in white. Its feet were a flesh color. It matched in every detail the first winter stage of plumage of the Great Black-backed Gull. I watched the bird just standing for about 15 minutes, then it flew a few yards away and I was struck by the very long wingspan and the powerful downward stroke of its wings. The flight and size were very comparable to the Glaucous. It would fly up and come back to almost the same spot. Most of the lake was frozen over, but there were small patches of open water, and the bird was standing on the ice at the edge of one of these patches. I estimate that the bird was 300 to 400 feet from my viewing point on the shore. I watched it through 7×35 Bushnell wide-angle binoculars, and through a Bausch and Lomb spotting scope at 30×. It could be seen almost as well at both 15× and 20×, however. I was facing east, with the afternoon sun at my back. Jim and Sandy Kovanda were with me at the time, and agreed with the identification. When other birders who had gone to see the Glaucous Gull heard about the Great Black-backed Gull they reported that they had seen the bird and realized that it was different, but had not identified it.

— Ruth C. Green, Bellevue

This is apparently the third record of the Great Black-backed Gull in or near Nebraska. Aughey examined "a dead specimen which some Winnebago Indians had shot on the Missouri and brought to Dakota City in May, 1871". (Bruner, Wolcott, and Swenk, *A Preliminary Review of the Birds of Nebraska*, p. 19). One was reported from a few miles west of Aurora 5 April 1952 by Mrs. Kermit Swenson, who was accompanied by five other people at the time of the sighting (*NBR* 20:83, 21:9). Lake Manawa is a cut-off lake, formed from the Missouri in the flood of 1881. It is entirely in Iowa, but about a mile from the present course of the river (and Nebraska). Until the recent construction of the Papio lakes it was the only large body of water near Omaha, and most Omaha birders did not (and still don't) distinguish between sightings there and those actually in Nebraska proper. For the purists, it may be noted that around noon 7 December the Kovandas could not find the bird at Manawa, but they did find it there later in the afternoon. The presumption is that the bird was on the Missouri (and so in Nebraska part of the time) when it wasn't at Manawa.

— Editor

9-1979

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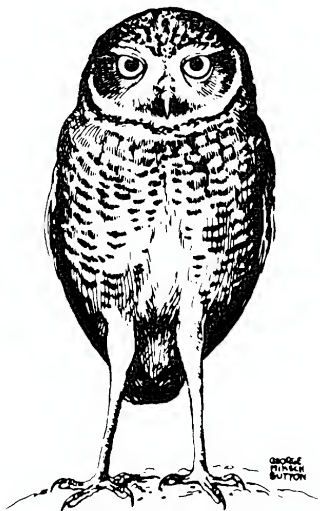
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1979 (FIFTY-FOURTH) SPRING MIGRATION AND OCCURRENCE REPORT

Two hundred ninety two species are listed in this report, from 12 localities. The comparable figures for 1978 are 300 species from 17 localities; 1977 281 from 13; and 1976 280 from 8.

The symbols used in the tabulation are:

Ja, Fe, Mr, Ap, My, and Je for the months

f, F, m, M, A, y, and Y in the Washington County column for 3 February, 10 February, 7 March, 25 March, 22 April, 10 May and 22 May respectively

P to indicate a species which is present all the year, although the same individuals may not be present during the whole year, and the numbers may vary greatly between periods

- S to indicate a species which remained after 30 June

W as a column heading for Washington County (De Soto NWR)

W - to indicate a species which was reported as present before 1 January

W - S to indicate a species which was present during the whole season. It is much the same as P, but is used in cases which are considered special circumstances, rather than the usual pattern.

X in the York County column to indicate a species recorded on 15 May

x with a month when the exact date is not known

Y as a column heading for York County; in W column for 22 May

* in Garden and Lancaster columns to indicate that more detail on the record is given in the comments for the respective counties.

Two dates indicate the first and last records for the area. The information is presented in a rough west (left) to east (right) order, with areas of about the same longitude presented in a north to south order. The names of reporters (and of other observers, if known), the number of species reported, and any special comments are given below in alphabetical order by counties. In making this species count "Empidonax sp." and the like are not counted if a specific species of that group is also reported.

Adams, Hastings, 126 species, Miss Bernice Welch, reporter. Vlasta Butler, Vera Coons, Jim Fobben, Elsie Helzer, Mr. and Mrs. Clifford Kennedy, Mr. and Mrs. Eldon Percival, Carl Throckmorton, and Mitch Weiss. Gulls in the Herring/Ring-billed class, not further identified as to species, were seen from 18 March to 12 May.

Boone, Albion, 151 species, Wayne J. Mollhoff, reporter.

Douglas (and Sarpy), Omaha and Bellevue, 243 species, Tanya Bray, R.G. Cortelyou, Ruth C. Green, Babs and Loren Padelford, Melba Wigg, reporters, Evelyn Conrad, Clyde and Emma Johnson, Sandy and Jim Kovanda, Cathy Nelson, Alice Rushton, Andy Saunders, Warren Tetra. The Red-necked Grebe was seen on the Duda farm, north of Omaha. It flew past their window, which overlooks the Missouri River flood-plain, and landed on a spring-fed pond below the house. Mrs. Duda moved closer to the pond each time the bird dived, held still when it surfaced, and was able to get within 50 to 75 feet of the bird. She watched it with her binoculars for 5 or 10 minutes, while it preened in the sun, and got a good look at the red throat as well as its profile and general shape. A Cattle Egret was reported from adjacent Saunders County 23 April. A duck-sized Canada was seen 13 April. The early (15 January) Red-shouldered Hawks were seen by Mrs. Duda near her house in the tree-covered bluffs north of Omaha, while they moved about and rested in the trees. When they moved on they flew right over her back yard. She studied them with binoculars, and had Peterson's and Robbin's guides at hand to help with the identification. The wing and tail markings were quite vivid. She felt that this was a family of two adults and two immatures, migrating together. The Gray Partridges were seen first by Tanya Bray, Sandy Kovanda and Babs Padelford, near La Platte. The birds were seen at the edge of a field of corn stubble, about 100 feet away, and were studied with binoculars and a spotting scope, for about 5 minutes. Then the birds started walking, and then flew about 30 feet, showing their rusty tail feathers. The birds were grouse-like, with orange-gold throats, gray breast and nape, reddish stripes on the sides, brown back, dark legs and feet, and a dark belly patch was seen on a few. They checked with the Omaha office of the Game Commission and were told that no birds had been released in the area, and that the birds probably were migrants from northwestern Iowa. A tern, either Common or Forster's, was seen 26 May. A Ringed Turtle Dove was seen, flying free, in late April. The Burrowing Owl appeared in back of the motel at which the Wilson Ornithological Society meeting was being held. The appearance created considerable excitement, not only because the bird was a lifer or a rarity to many of the attendees, but also

because the bird is a symbol of NOU, which was a co-host of the meeting. A bird seen flying at dusk at a considerable distance 24 April was believed to be a Nighthawk - the white wing-bar was thought to have been seen - and if so it was very early. A Brown Thrasher wintered in Mrs. Green's yard. Barbara Bergstrom and Babs Padelford heard what they thought was the song of a Prairie Warbler in Jewel Park, Bellevue, on 9 May. They followed it and found it sitting on a shrub about 7 feet above the ground, and they observed it from about 40 feet away. Tanya Bray joined them about 45 minutes later and also saw the bird. On 10 May Sandy Kovanda and Babs Padelford went back and found the bird at about eye level, from 30 to 40 feet away. The yellow throat and breast, dark lines through and under the eye, black streaking along the sides, and white wing bars were all seen, but none of the observers noticed any red streaks on the back. A Field Sparrow was reported 4 January.

Cherry, Valentine, 103 species, Douglas L. Ballard, reporter. Much of the information was provided by personnel of the Valentine NWR.

Garden, Crescent Lake NWR, 186 species, C. Fred Zeilemaker, reporter, James Douglas, Vivian DeWitt, JoAnn Foster, Scott Foster, Al Hanson, Sam Fitton, Jack Peterson, Everett Russell, Mary Russell, Richard Rosche, Monte Shaul II, and Molly Zeilemaker. Mallards were recorded W-1/27 and 3/1 — S, Sharp-shinned Hawk 1/1 and 4/17-5/13, and Robins 1/15-1/25 and 3/18-S. Species which winter in the county, along the North Platte River, but not at the Refuge include: Great Blue Heron, Canada Goose, Mallard, Gadwall, Pintail, Green-winged Teal, American Wigeon, Common Merganser, Sharp-shinned Hawk, Red-tailed Hawk, Golden Eagle, Bald Eagle, Blue Jay, American Robin, Townsend's Solitaire, Starling, House Sparrow, Western Meadowlark, Common Grackle, and Cardinal; summering species include Chimney Swift, Bank Swallow, and Purple Martin; and species which are permanent in other parts of the county include American Kestrel, Bobwhite, Common Flicker, Black-billed Magpie, Common Crow, Black-capped Chickadee, and House Finch.

Hall, see Howard.

Howard (and Hall), St. Libory and Grand Island, 98 species, Bill Schleicher reporter, George Stoppkotte.

Lancaster, Lincoln, 155 species, Dr. Norma Johnson, Mrs. Mabel B. Ott, reporters, Tanya Bray, Ruth C. Green. A Yellow-bellied Sapsucker was seen 11 and 12 May, also. On 13 June Mrs. Ott heard of a Scissor-tailed Flycatcher which had been on the University of Nebraska Lincoln campus all spring. She and Mr. Ott watched the bird for about 20 minutes that afternoon, but it could not be found the next morning, when several persons came to see it. It was seen about 2 weeks later, north of the campus. This spring a pair each of Canada Geese, Mallard, Blue-winged Teal, and Wood Duck nested at Chet Ager Nature Center. None of these were captive birds.

Lincoln, North Platte, 141 species, Marie Cunningham reporter, Harold Cunningham, Erma Grif, Beryl Main, Betty and Louis McEvoy, Edith McIntosh, Margaret Morton, Dorothy Nelson, Ella Nielsen, Carol and Bert Somerhalder, Helen Sutton, Wilma and Howard Wyman.

Sarpy, see Douglas.

Scotts Bluff, Scottsbluff and North Platte NWR, 159 species, Mrs. Roy J. Witschy, C. Fred Zeilemaker, reporters, Mary Ann Banghart, Lydia Bolz, Julia Joyce Brashear, Alice Kenitz, Sherry McCoy, Jack Peterson, Everett Russell, and Richard and Dorothy Rosche. Mrs. Kenitz saw the Black-necked Stilt about 1:30 P.M. 20 April, on a pond south of Gering. The pond is very popular with many wading birds — more so than in any of the past 6 years in which she has been driving by the pond almost daily. The Stilt was not observed on the pond the day before, and it was not seen at 6 P.M., when Mrs. Kenitz went by again. The Red-bellied Woodpecker was a daily visitor to a feeder in Melbeta.

Washington (W), De Soto NWR, 102 species, Tanya Bray, reporter. This gives the observations of 5 visits to the Refuge: 3 and 10 February, 7 and 25 March, 22 April and 22 May (f, F, m, M, A, and Y respectively) and an observation 10 May (y). Mrs. Bray reported the following counts on Bald Eagles: 1 adult, 1 immature 2/3; 1 im. 2/10; 41 a, 17 im. 3/7; and 1 a. and 1 im. 3/25.

York (Y), Benedict, 55 species, Tanya Bray, reporter, Lee Morris, Babs Padelford, Sandy Kovanda, and Melba Wigg. This is a count of the species seen 15 May on a trip to the Morris farm to see Buff-breasted Sandpipers.

	Scotts Sioux	Gar- Bluff	den	Cherry	Lin- coln	Howard Hall	Adams	Boone	Y Lan- caster	W Doug- Sarp
Common Loon	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	- Ap 4 My 20
Red-necked Grebe	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	- My 13
Horned Grebe	-	Mr 16 Ap 17	Mr 29 My 11	Ap 26	-	-	-	-	-	- Ap 5 Ap 15
Fared Grebe	My 1	Ap 15 My 26	Ap 9 - S	Ap 13	Ap 17	-	Ap 22 My 12	Ap 22 X	-	- Ap 6 My 5
Western Grebe	My 6	Mr 28 My 26	Ap 9 - S	Ap 16	Ap 27 My 12	-	-	-	-	- Ap 14 My 15
Pied-billed Grebe	Ap 10	Ap 3 My 4	Ap 10 - S	Ap 16	Ap 17 My 12	-	My 12	Ap 13 X Je 30	Mr 28 A Ap 4	Mr 12 My 26
White Pelican	Ap 24	Ap 15 My 26	Ap 6 - S	Ap 4	Mr 20	-	-	Ap 9	-	A Ap 7 My 5
Double-crested Cormorant	-	Mr 27 My 26	Ap 9 - S	Ap 4	Mr 28 My 12	-	-	Ap 22 My 6	- Ap 7 My 7	A Ap 4 My 22
Great Blue Heron	Ap 1	Mr 28 - S	Mr 29 - S	Mr 17	Mr 24 My 12	Ap 30 Je 10	-	Mr 28 Je 30	- Ap 8 My 11	- Fe 11 - S
Green Heron	-	-	Je 12	-	Ap 23	Ap 30 Je 30	My 12	My 7 X My 20	My 15 - S	- Ap 15 - S
Little Blue Heron	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	- Je 20
Cattle Egret	-	-	My 26 Je 7	-	-	-	-	-	-	- My 9
Great Egret	-	My 3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	- Ap 13 My 13
Snowy Egret	-	-	-	My 12	-	-	-	-	-	y -
Black-crowned Night Heron	My 1	My 26 - S	Ap 16	My 20	My 12	-	My 12	-	-	A Ap 4 My 18
Yellow-crowned Night Heron	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	- My 2
American Bittern	-	-	Ap 19 - S	Ap 15	-	-	My 12	-	X	- A My 5 My 16
White-faced Ibis	-	-	My 2	My 8	-	-	-	-	-	-
Trumpeter Swan	-	-	-	Mr 10 My 23	-	-	-	-	-	-
Canada Goose	Fe 17 Ap 5	Ja 20 My 26	Fe 26 - S	P	P	Fe 28 Mr 30	Mr 9 My 12	Mr 20 Ap 13	-	P M Mr 12 My 28
White-fronted Goose	-	-	-	-	-	-	Mr 19 Ap 22	Ap 13	-	- Mr 12 Ap 15
Snow Goose	-	Mr 2 Mr 28	Mr 12 Ap 8	-	-	-	Mr 19 Ap 22	-	- Fe 10 Mr 15	- Mr 11 My 5
Mallard	Fe 17 - S	P	W*- - S	Mr 8 - S	Mr 24 My 12	Ap 3	Mr 9 Je 7	P X	P	f W - A Je 23
Black Duck	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	f -
Gadwall	Mr 25	Mr 16 Je 6	Mr 14 - S	-	Mr 17	-	Mr 18 Ap 22	Ap 4 X Ap 13	Mr 28 M	Ja 3 A My 9
Pintail	Mr 11	Mr 13 My 4	Mr 7 - S	Mr 20	Mr 9	-	Mr 9 My 12	Mr 14 X Ap 14	Mr 28 M	Mr 12 My 5
Green-winged Teal	Mr 13	Ja 20 My 19	Mr 6 - S	Mr 12	Mr 17	-	-	Ja 1 X Ap 13	Ap 8 A	Mr 12 My 5
Blue-winged Teal	Ap 9	Ap 15 My 26	Mr 30 - S	Ap 2	Mr 28 My 12	-	Ap 8 My 12	Ap 4 X Je 30	Mr 28 A Je 27 Y	Mr 12 My 26

		Scotts Sioux	Gar- Bluff	den 15	Cherry 30	Lin- coln My 2	Howard Hall My 12	Adams -	Boone -	Y Lan- caster -	W Doug- Sarpay -
Cinnamon Teal	My 24	-	Mr 15	Mr 30	My 12	-	-	-	-	-	- Ap 9 Ap 13
American Wigeon	Mr 25	Mr 16 Je 6	Mr 10	-	Mr 17	-	Ap 22	8 Mr 28	Mr 28	M Mr 12	- Ap 9 A My 7
Northern Shoveler	Mr 28	Mr 27 My 29	Mr 12	-	Mr 17	-	Mr 18	Ap 13	X Mr 28	M Mr 12	- Ap 11 A My 26
Wood Duck	-	Ap 17 My 26	Mr 31	Mr 28	Ap 15	Ap 18	-	Mr 20	- My 17	M Mr 12	- Je 30 Y - S
Redhead	Mr 13	Mr 15 Je 6	Mr 9	Mr 17	Mr 17	-	Mr 19	Ap 4	- Mr 28	M Mr 12	- My 7
Ring-necked Duck	Ap 10	Ap 30	Mr 24	Mr 31	My 12	-	-	Mr 14	- Mr 28	- Mr 12	- Ap 13 My 5
Canvasback	Mr 25	Mr 15 My 4	Mr 12	Mr 27	Mr 24	-	Mr 18	Mr 28	- Ap 10	M Mr 12	- A My 2
Greater Scaup	-	-	Ap 14	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Lesser Scaup	Mr 25	W - Je 6	Mr 10	Mr 12	Mr 17	-	Mr 18	Ap 4	- Mr 28	M Mr 12	- My 5
Common Goldeneye	-	Mr 16 Mr 30	Mr 6	Mr 20	-	-	-	Mr 28	- Ap 8	- W -	- Mr 28
Bufflehead	Ap 27	Mr 16 Ap 20	Mr 9	Mr 14	Mr 17	-	-	Ap 4	X Mr 28	M Mr 12	- Ap 13 My 5
Ruddy Duck	Ap 20	Mr 20 Ap 25	Mr 15	Mr 31	Ap 20	-	-	Ap 13	- Mr 28	A Mr 5	- My 5
Hooded Merganser	-	-	My 31 Je 28	Mr 26	-	-	-	Ap 12	-	-	M Mr 18 Ap 30
Common Merganser	-	Ja 20 My 3	Mr 6	Ap 18	Ap 6	-	-	Mr 14	- Mr 28	M Mr 9	- My 5
Red-breasted Merganser	-	Mr 28 Ap 1	Mr 29	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	- Mr 22 Ap 26
Turkey Vulture	-	My 27	Ap 12	Ap 4	Ap 23	-	-	-	-	-	- Mr 30 Je 28
Goshawk	-	-	Ap 29	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Sharp-shinned Hawk	-	-	Ap 13 My 13	-	-	-	-	-	-	Mr 10 Ap 6	- W - Je 21
Cooper's Hawk	-	-	Ap 17 My 16	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	- My 28
Red-tailed Hawk	-	P	Mr 12 - S	-	Ap 5 My 12	Fe 10 Ap 1	My 12	P	X	P	f P M
Red-shouldered Hawk	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	- Ja 15 My 5
Broad-winged Hawk	-	-	Ap 16 My 15	-	-	-	My 12	Ap 22	-	-	- Ap 18 Je 21
Swainson's Hawk	-	Ap 30	Ap 17	Mr 1	My 12	Fe 8	Ap 3	Ap 13	-	-	- Ap 13 My 5
Rough-legged Hawk	Mr 16	W - Mr 16	W - Ap 13	Mr 28	My 12	W - Ap 1	-	W -	W -	m W -	- My 5
Ferruginous Hawk	-	-	Ap 17 My 1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	- Ja 7 Mr 25
Golden Eagle	P	P	W - Ap 30	Fe 5	W - Mr 5	Fe 14 Ap 16	-	W -	-	-	-
Bald Eagle	-	W - Ap 3	Mr 12	W -	W -	W -	-	Ja 1	- Mr 29	f W -	- M Ap 26

	Scotts Sioux	Gar- Bluff	den	Cherry	Lin- coln	Howard Hall	Adams	Boone	Y Lan- caster	W Doug- Sarpy
Marsh Hawk	P	P	Ja 25 - S	-	-	Fe 10 My 10	Fe 11	Mr 14 Ap 14	- Mr 15	A W - My 19
Osprey	-	Ja 18 Ap 17	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	- Fe 2 My 5
Gyr Falcon	-	-	Mr 3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Prairie Falcon	P	Fe 1 My 31	Fe 25	-	-	-	-	Mr 14 Ap 4	- Je 11	-
Peregrine Falcon	-	-	Ap 24 My 11	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Merlin	-	Fe 25	Fe 24 My 6	Ap 16	-	-	-	-	My 9	- Ap 7 Ap 8
American Kestrel	Ap 5 - S	P	Mr 29 My 7	Mr 29	P	-	-	P	-	P f P m
Greater Prairie Chicken	-	-	-	-	P	-	-	P	-	-
Sharp-tailed Grouse	P	P	P	P	P	-	-	P	-	-
Bobwhite	-	P	-	P	P	P	P	P	-	P f P Y
Ring-necked Pheasant	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	X	P f P Y
Gray Partridge	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	- Fe 21 Fe 23
Turkey	P	P	-	P	-	-	-	P	-	-
Sandhill Crane	Ap 9	Ap 8	Mr 27 Ap 23	Mr 26 Ap 22	Ja 17 Mr 24	Mr 7 Mr 9	Fe 21 Mr 19	-	-	-
Virginia Rail	-	-	Ap 20 - S	-	-	-	-	-	-	- My 5 My 13
Sora	-	-	My 3 - S	My 4	My 12 My 15	-	My 12	-	X My 11 My 12	- Ap 21 My 28
American Coot	Mr 28	Mr 27 My 26	Mr 24 - S	Mr 28	Ap 13 My 12	-	Mr 18 My 12	Ap 13 Je 8	X Mr 3 My 28	Mr 12 Y - S
Semipalmated Plover	-	Ap 17	My 2	Ap 25	My 12	-	Ap 22	-	-	- Ap 28 My 12
Piping Plover	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	- Ap 29 My 31
Killdeer	Mr 12 - S	Mr 12 - S	Mr 12 - S	Mr 16 - S	Mr 17 - S	Mr 17 - S	Mr 15 - S	Mr 16 - S	X Mr 3 - S	Mr 12 Y - S
Black-bellied Plover	-	-	My 10 My 18	Ap 25	My 6	-	-	-	My 15	- My 10 My 12
American Woodcock	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Je 1	- Mr 27 - S
Common Snipe	Ap 5	Ap 21 My 15	Ap 13	Ap 11	Ap 7	-	-	Ja 1 Ap 22	-	- Fe 10 My 28
Long-billed Curlew	Ap 12 - S	Ap 23 - S	Mr 28 - S	Ap 5	Ap 5 My 12	-	-	-	-	-
Upland Sandpiper	My 3 - S	My 4 - S	Ap 24 - S	Ap 24	Ap 27 - S	-	-	Ap 22 Je 30	- Je 28	- Ap 28 - S
Spotted Sandpiper	-	My 3	My 3 My 15	Ap 22	-	My 26 My 30	My 12	My 21	- My 10	- Ap 26 My 31

[illegible]

	Scotts Sioux	Gar- Bluff	den	Lin- Cherry	coln	Howard Hall	Adams	Boone	Y Lan- caster	W Doug- Sarpy
Forster's Tern	-	My 4 Je 6	Ap 16 - S	Ap 19	-	-	-	-	X My 12	- Ap 15 My 14
Common Tern	-	-	My 13	Ap 21	My 12	-	Mr 18	-	-	- My 5
Least Tern	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	- My 31
Caspian Tern	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	- Ap 28 My 26
Black Tern	My 24 Je 6	My 6 - S	My 2	My 8	My 12	-	My 12	My 12 Je 30	X My 12	- My 5 Je 30
Rock Dove	P	P	-	-	P	P	P	P	-	P F P
Mourning Dove	Mr 28 - S	Mr 16 - S	Ap 8 - S	Ap 13	Mr 28 - S	W - - S	W - - S	Mr 24 - S	X W - - S	A W - Y - S
Yellow-billed Cuckoo	Je 17 Je 30	My 30 - S	Je 11 - S	-	Je 11 - S	My 19 Je 29	My 28 Je 25	My 18 Je 30	- My 22 Je 30	Y My 5 - S
Black-billed Cuckoo	-	-	-	My 18	-	-	My 29	My 21 Je 30	- Je 18 Je 24	Y My 8 - S
Barn Owl	-	-	Ap 14 - S	-	-	P	-	-	-	-
Screech Owl	-	P	Ap 24	My 5	P	-	P	P	-	P - P
Great Horned Owl	P	P	P	-	P	P	P	P	X	P A P
Burrowing Owl	Ap 14 - S	Ap 20 - S	Ap 19 - S	-	My 12 - S	My 17 - S	My 12 - S	-	-	- Ap 7
Barred Owl	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	- P
Long-eared Owl	-	-	Ja 6	-	-	-	-	-	Ja 3	- Mr 15
Short-eared Owl	-	-	Mr 6 My 15	-	-	-	-	Ja 10 Fe 23	-	m -
Saw-whet Owl	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	- Fe 4
Chuck-will's-widow	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	- My 20 My 24
Whip-poor-will	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	- Ap 17
Common Nighthawk	My 19 - S	My 26 - S	My 17 - S	-	Je 1 - S	Ap 25 - S	My 12 - S	My 30 - S	- My 18 - S	Y My 7 - S
Chimney Swift	-	My 1 - S	-	Ap 12	My 12 - S	Ap 30 - S	Ap 15 - S	Ap 26 - S	X Ap 16 - S	A Ap 16 Y - S
White-throated Swift	-	Je 12 Je 25	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ruby-throated Hummingbird	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	- My 5 My 28
Belted Kingfisher	P	P	Ap 26 My 3	-	Mr 28 - S	Ap 13 - S	Ap 8 - S	Ap 4 Je 30	- Ap 4 - S	- W - - S
Common Flicker	P	P	Mr 29 Je 13	Ap 10	P	P	P	P	X P	f P Y
Red-bellied Woodpecker	-	W - Ja 4	-	-	W - Ja 2	P	P	P	-	P A P Y
Red-headed Woodpecker	My 21 - S	My 25 - S	My 14 Je 14	-	Ap 2 - S	My 10 - S	My 7 - S	My 12 - S	X Ap 1 - S	A W - Y - S
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	-	-	Ap 9	-	Ap 20	-	-	-	W* Ja 8	- W - Ja 15
Hairy Woodpecker	P	P	-	-	P	P	P	P	-	P f P Y
Downy Woodpecker	P	P	P	-	P	P	P	P	-	P n P ..

	Scotts Sioux	Gar- Bluff	den Cherry	Lin- coln	Howard Hall	Adams	Boone	Y Lan- caster	W Doug- Sarp
Eastern Kingbird	My 15 - S	My 10 - S	My 6 - S	Ap 20	My 12 - S	My 28 - S	My 12 - S	My 6 - S	My 7 - S
Western Kingbird	My 10 - S	My 6 - S	My 6 - S	Ap 20	Ap 29 - S	My 7 - S	My 9 - S	My 6 - S	My 12 - S
Scissor-tailed Flycatcher				-	-	-	-	-	May June
Great Crested Flycatcher	-	-	My 16	-	-	My 26 - S	-	My 28 Je 30	My 14 - S
Eastern Phoebe	-	-	Ap 26	-	My 12 Je 20	My 28 Je 20	-	Ap 4 - S	My 28 - S
Say's Phoebe	Ap 7 - S	Ap 6 - S	Ap 6 My 11	Ap 14	Ap 5 My 12	-	-	-	-
Yellow-bellied Flycatcher	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	My 12 Je 30
Acadian Flycatcher	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	My 3 My 21
Willow Flycatcher	-	-	My 16 Je 18	-	-	-	-	-	My 7 Je 4
Alder Flycatcher	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Y My 30
Least Flycatcher	-	My 16	My 14 My 17	-	-	My 13 My 12	My 5 My 20	My 6 My 20	My 7 My 29
Empidonax sp.	-	-	-	-	My 12	-	-	-	-
Eastern Wood Pewee	-	-	-	-	-	-	My 30	My 20 Je 26	My 19 Je 18
Western Wood Pewee	My 25 - S	My 26 - S	My 14 Je 10	-	-	-	-	-	-
Olive-sided Flycatcher	-	-	-	-	-	Ap 3 My 11	My 12	-	-
Horned Lark	P	P	P	P	P	P	W Mr 19	P	P
Violet-green Swallow	My 1	My 18	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Tree Swallow	-	My 16	Ap 16 - S	-	-	-	-	Ap 22	-
Bank Swallow	-	My 16	My 12 My 15	Ap 26	Ap 20	My 10 Je 26	-	-	-
Rough-winged Swallow	Ap 19 - S	Ap 26 - S	Ap 16 - S	-	Ap 15 - S	My 10 Je 20	-	Mr 22 Je 30	X Ap 16 A Ap 19
Barn Swallow	Ap 29 - S	Ap 15 - S	Ap 19 - S	Ap 21	Ap 25 - S	Ap 21 - S	Ap 15 - S	Ap 22 - S	X Ap 16 Y Ap 15
Cliff Swallow	Ap 29 - S	My 16 - S	My 12 - S	-	Ap 20 My 12	My 26 - S	-	Je 10	X My 9 - S
Purple Martin	-	-	-	-	Mr 28 - S	My 3 - S	Ap 7 - S	Ap 13 - S	Mr 28 - S
Blue Jay	P	P	Ap 21 - S	P	P	P	P	P	X P
Black-billed Magpie	P	P	-	P	P	P	My 12 - S	P	-
Common Crow	P	P	Mr 7 My 1	P	P	P	P	P	X P
Pinon Jay	P	P	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

	Scotts Sioux	Gar- Bluff	den den	Cherry Cherry	Lin- coln	Howard Hall	Adams	Boone	Y Lan- caster	W Doug- Sарy
Black-capped Chickadee	P	P	Ja 26	-	P	P	P	P	-	P f p Y
Tufted Titmouse	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Y P
White-breasted Nuthatch	P	-	-	-	W - Ja 1	P	P	P	-	P A P
Red-breasted Nuthatch	P	Ap 27 My 22	My 10 My 15	-	-	W - Ap 2	W - Fe 5	-	-	W - Fe 19 Mr 15
Pygmy Nuthatch	P	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Brown Creeper	-	W - Ja 28	-	-	-	W - Mr 3	W - Mr 22	-	-	W - Ja 22 P
House Wren	Ap 29 - S	Ap 21 - S	Ap 24 - S	My 6	My 6 - S	Ap 22 - S	Ap 22 - S	Ap 23 - S	X Ap 16 - S	A Ap 16 Y - S
Winter Wren	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	- Ja 7 Ap 13
Bewick's Wren	-	-	-	-	Ap 8	-	-	-	-	-
Carolina Wren	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	- My 15 My 27
Long-billed Marsh Wren	Ap 24 - S	-	Ap 15 - S	-	-	-	-	-	-	- My 12
Short-billed Marsh Wren	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	- My 2 My 12
Rock Wren	Ap 14 - S	My 11 - S	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Mockingbird	-	-	-	-	-	My 28 Je 26	-	-	X Ap 20 - S	- W - Ap 24
Gray Catbird	My 20 - S	Ap 18 My 26	My 14 My 26	-	My 10 - S	My 11 - S	Ap 29 - S	My 13 - S	- My 7 - S	Y My 3 - S
Brown Thrasher	Ap 24 - S	Ap 30 - S	Ap 21 - S	My 7	W - - S	Ap 24 - S	W - - S	Ap 22 - S	X Ap 16 - S	A Ap 18 Y - S
American Robin	Mr 2 - S	P	Ja 15 - S	P	W - - S	Mr 13 - S	Ja 23 - S	Fe 4 - S	X W - - S	M W - Y - S
Wood Thrush	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	- My 11 - S	Y Ap 30 - S
Hermit Thrush	-	-	My 12 My 17	-	-	-	-	-	-	- Ap 17
Swainson's Thrush	My 3 - S	My 14 Je 9	Ap 28 Je 12	My 11	My 4 My 12	-	Ap 22 - S	My 1 Je 1	- Ap 28 My 21	- My 1 Je 1
Gray-cheeked Thrush	-	-	My 10 My 15	-	-	-	My 12 My 15	My 8 My 21	- My 12 My 21	- Ap 29 My 16
Veery	-	-	My 15 My 16	-	-	My 8 My 19	-	-	- My 10 My 28	- My 12 My 28
Eastern Bluebird	-	Ja 20	-	-	My 12	P	-	Mr 27 Mr 28	- My 5 My 12	- My 4 - S
Mountain Bluebird	Fe 17 - S	Mr 16 My 25	Mr 10 Mr 29	-	W - Ja 3	-	-	-	-	-
Townsend's Solitaire	Ap 24	W - Ap 15	Ja 29	Mr 23	W - Ja 10	Ap 3 Ap 6	Fe 11	-	-	- Ja 24
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	- Ap 29 My 5
Golden-crowned Kinglet	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	W - Ja 1	- W - Ap 16

	Scotts Sioux	Gar- Bluff	den	Cherry	Lin- coln	Howard Hall	Adams	Boone	Y Lan- caster	W Doug- Sarry
Ruby-crowned Kinglet	My 10 My 14	Ja 12 Ap 30	Ap 15	-	-	-	Ap 29	My 12 My 11	- Ap 27 My 11	- Ap 12 My 14
Water Pipit	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	- Ap 14 Ap 19
Sprague's Pipit	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	- My 5
Bohemian Waxwing	-	Fe 23 Mr 30	Ja 8 Ja 9	-	-	-	Fe 11 Mr 17	-	-	- Mr 4 Mr 6
Cedar Waxwing	-	Fe 6 My 15	Ap 19 Je 10	-	Mr 23	-	Fe 11 My 28	Fe 9 My 5	-	- W - Je 29
Northern Shrike	Fe 17 Mr 16	W - Mr 12	W -	-	-	-	-	W - Fe 6	-	-
Loggerhead Shrike	Ap 25 - S	My 4 - S	Mr 29 - S	-	Ap 5 - S	-	Fe 17 My 28	Ap 13 Je 30	- W - - S	- Fe 18
Starling	P	P	Mr 13 - S	Ap 8	Mr 23 - S	P	P	P	- P	- P
White-eyed Vireo	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	- Ap 24 Je 20
Bell's Vireo	-	-	-	-	My 12 - S	My 28 Je 10	-	My 22 Je 30	- My 9 Je 2	- My 5 My 25
Yellow-throated Vireo	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	- My 6 Je 27
Solitary Vireo	-	My 17	-	-	-	-	My 12 My 18	-	- Ap 27	- Ap 29 My 24
Red-eyed Vireo	My 21 - S	My 25 - S	My 17	-	My 15 - S	My 13 - S	My 18 My 30	-	- My 9 My 12	- My 5 - S
Philadelphia Vireo	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	- My 15 My 19	- My 5 My 23
Warbling Vireo	My 21	My 16 My 26	My 14 Je 19	-	My 12 - S	My 20 - S	My 20 - S	My 15 - S	- Ap 23 - S	- Y Ap 26 S
Black-and-white Warbler	-	-	Ap 15 My 15	-	My 6 My 12	-	My 12 My 13	My 12 My 13	- My 3 My 12	- A Ap 22 My 15
Prothonotary Warbler	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	- My 12	- My 19 My 30
Worm-eating Warbler	-	-	My 7 My 16	-	-	-	-	-	-	- My 3 My 13
Golden-winged Warbler	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	- My 12 My 13
Blue-winged Warbler	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	- My 12 My 13
Tennessee Warbler	-	-	My 13	-	-	Ap 24 My 14	My 10 My 12	My 18	- Ap 27 My 18	- Y My 2 Je 5
Orange-crowned Warbler	My 2	Ap 25 Ap 26	Ap 17 My 15	Ap 16 My 12	My 6 My 12	-	Ap 21 My 12	Ap 23 My 13	- Ap 26 My 14	- A Ap 18 My 24
Nashville Warbler	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	My 12 My 11	- My 8 My 11	- Ap 21 My 23
Northern Parula	-	-	Ap 21 Ap 22	-	-	-	-	-	-	- A Ap 21 Je 27
Yellow Warbler	My 14 - S	My 6 - S	My 6 - S	My 6 My 12	My 9 - S	My 13 - S	My 6 My 17	My 6 My 25	My 6 My 12	- Y Ap 26 - S
Magnolia Warbler	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	My 12	-	- My 10 My 16
Yellow-rumped Warbler	Ap 21	Ap 24 My 15	Ap 15 My 15	Ap 29 My 12	Ap 16 My 12	Ap 24 My 13	Ap 8 My 12	Ap 27 My 13	- Ap 10 My 12	- A Ap 13 My 15

	Scotts Sioux	Gar- Bluff	den	Cherry	Lin- coln	Howard Hall	Adams	Boone	Y Lan- caster	W Doug- Sarry	
Black-throated Green Warbler	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	My 3 My 14
Cerulean Warbler	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	My 5 Je 7
Blackburnian Warbler	-	-	-	-	-	-	My 12 My 13	-	-	My 12	- My 5 My 27
Chestnut-sided Warbler	-	-	-	-	-	My 17	My 12	-	-	-	My 9 Je 3
Bay-breasted Warbler	-	-	-	-	-	-	My 12 My 13	-	-	-	My 12 My 17
Blackpoll Warbler	-	-	My 10 My 13	-	-	-	My 12	My 12 My 20	-	My 9 My 12	- My 8 My 28
Pine Warbler	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	My 12	-
Prairie Warbler	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Ap 21 My 10
Palm Warbler	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Ap 22	-	-	My 1 My 11
Ovenbird	Je 17	-	My 14 My 16	-	-	-	My 12	-	-	My 9	- Ap 29 - S
Northern Waterthrush	My 3	-	My 14	My 10	-	-	-	-	-	My 3	- My 2 My 14
Kentucky Warbler	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	- My 14
Connecticut Warbl.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	My 19	-
Mourning Warbler	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	My 25	-	-	- My 12 My 28
MacGillivray's Warbler	-	-	My 14 My 15	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Common Yellowthroat	My 14 - S	My 14 - S	My 7 - S	-	My 6 My 12	-	My 6 - S	My 7 - S	My 7 - S	My 7 - S	Ap 29 - S
Yellow-breasted Chat	My 14	My 18 - S	My 14 My 17	-	-	My 13 - S	My 12	-	-	My 9 My 12	- My 8 Je 20
Hooded Warbler	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	A My 4 My 27
Wilson's Warbler	-	My 14	Ap 15 Ap 27	My 9 My 12	-	-	My 12	-	-	My 15 My 22	- My 3 My 28
Canada Warbler	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	My 11	- My 17 My 23
American Redstart	My 18 - S	-	My 14 My 26	-	My 16	My 26	My 12 My 13	My 15	-	My 9 My 19	Y My 13 - S
House Sparrow	P	P	Mr 7 - S	-	P	P	P	P	-	P	f P Y
Bobolink	-	My 19 Je 23	My 11 - S	My 22	My 12 - S	My 26 - S	My 28	My 20 My 29	X	-	- My 12 - S
Eastern Meadowlark	-	Ap 12	Mr 25 - S	-	Je 1	My 26 - S	-	-	-	Ap 23	A Mr 17 - S Y - S
Meadowlark sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	f P m
Western Meadowlark	P	P	Mr 2 - S	Mr 12 - S	P	Mr 6 - S	P	P	X	P	A Fe 10 Y - S
Yellow-headed Blackbird	My 1 - S	Ap 15 - S	Ap 13 - S	Ap 13 - S	Ap 26 My 12	My 3 My 13	Ap 8 - S	My 12 My 13	X	Ap 16 My 12	A Ap 9 Y My 31

	Scotts Gar- Sioux Bluff den				Lin- Cherry coln		Howard Hall Adams		Y Lan- Boone caster		W Doug- Sarpay	
Red-winged Blackbird	Mr 8	P	P	Mr 5	Mr 15	Mr 3	Mr 3	P	X	Mr 10	f	W -
	- S			- S	- S	- S				- S	Y	- S
Orchard Oriole	My 24	Mr 24	My 16	My 17	My 12	My 12	My 11	My 13	-	My 7	Y	My 5
	- S	- S	- S		- S	- S	- S	- S		- S		- S
Northern Oriole	My 25	My 14	My 13	My 8	My 5	My 8	My 5	My 6	X	My 6	Y	My 1
	- S	- S	- S		- S	- S	- S	- S		- S		- S
Rusty Blackbird	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Ap 4	-	Mr 3
										My 9		Ap 9
Brewer's Blackbird	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Ap 13	-	Ap 27	f -
									My 7			
Great-tailed Grackle	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Ap 15	-	-	-	Je x
								- S				
Common Grackle	Ap 10	W -	Mr 29	Ap 12	W -	Mr 20	P	Mr 22	X	Mr 31	F	W -
	- S	- S	- S		- S	- S		- S	- S	Y	- S	- S
Brown-headed Cowbird	Ap 21	My 26	Ap 16	Ap 24	Ap 15	My 3	Mr 3	Ap 13	X	W -	A	Fe 9
	- S	- S	- S		- S	- S	- S	- S	- S	- S	Y	- S
Western Tanager	My 30	My 18	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Je 20											
Scarlet Tanager	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	My 2
												- S
Summer Tanager	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	My 14
												My 28
Cardinal	-	My 18	-	-	P	P	P	P	-	P	f	P
											Y	
Rose-breasted Grosbeak	-	-	My 14	-	My 16	My 8	My 6	My 12	-	My 8	Y	My 2
			My 15			- S	- S	- S		- S		- S
Black-headed Grosbeak	My 25	My 16	My 12	-	-	-	My 13	My 12	-	-	-	-
	- S		My 17									
Blue Grosbeak	Je 10	My 20	My 15	-	-	-	-	My 13	-	Je 23	-	Je 18
	- S	- S	- S					- S		- S		- S
Indigo Bunting	-	-	-	-	-	My 30	My 5	My 12	-	My 12	Y	My 6
						- S	My 12	- S		- S		- S
Lazuli Bunting	Je 17	Ap 9	My 6	-	My 12	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	- S				My 14							
Dickcissel	-	-	Je 27	-	-	My 24	Je 6	Je 10	-	My 6	Y	Ap 29
			- S			- S	- S	- S		- S		- S
Evening Grosbeak	-	Ja 2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Fe 28
		Ja 22										Ap 14
Purple Finch	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	W -	-	W -
										Ap 23	My 4	
House Finch	-	P	-	-	P	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Common Redpoll	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Ja 20
												Mr 7
Pine Siskin	Ap 21	P	-	-	W -	-	W -	Fe 9	-	W -	-	W -
	- S				My 12		My 12	Ap 24	Ap 25	My 14		
American Goldfinch	My 6	P	Ap 20	-	P	P	P	P	-	F	Y	P
	- S		- S									
Rufous-sided Towhee	Ap 25	Fe 20	Ap 15	-	Ap 15	My 15	My 5	My 7	-	Ap 10	Y	Mr 4
	- S	- S	My 17		My 12	- S	My 12	My 12		My 31		- S
Lark Bunting	My 5	My 12	My 6	Ap 29	My 12	My 15	-	Je 8	X	-	-	-
	- S	- S	- S		- S	- S						
Savannah Sparrow	-	-	Ap 16	-	-	-	-	Fe 28	W	My 11	-	Ap 19
			My 30					My 19	My 12	My 15		

	Scotts Bluff	Garden	Cherry	Lincoln	Howard Hall	Adams	Boone	Y Lan-caster	W Doug-Sarpy
Grasshopper Sparrow	-	-	My 7 - S	-	My 12 - S	My 15 - S	My 6 - S	My 6 X My 15 - S	- Ap 26 Je 21
Le Conte's Sparrow	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	- My 5
Vesper Sparrow	Ap 13	Ap 17	Ap 10 My 15	Ap 19	-	-	-	Ap 13	- - Ap 9 Je 23
Lark Sparrow	Ap 20 - S	Ap 22 - S	Ap 23 - S	Ap 27	Ap 17 My 12	My 24 - S	My 29	My 6 - S	- My 11 - S Ap 13 Je 21
Dark-eyed Junco	W - Ap 15	W - My 13	W - Ap 20	My 6	W - Ap 10	W - Ap 26	W - Mr 3	W - Ap 13	- f W - M Ap 21
Gray-headed Junco	-	-	My 6	-	-	-	-	-	-
Tree Sparrow	W - Ap 10	W - Mr 16	W - Ap 15	-	W - My 12	W - Ap 10	My 3 - S	W - Ap 13	- W - f W - m Ap 18
Chipping Sparrow	My 3 - S	Ap 21 - S	Ap 19 My 14	My 13	Ap 17 My 12	Ap 26 - S	Ap 11 - S	Ap 22 - S	- My 11 - S A Mr 15 - S
Clay-colored Sparrow	My 12	Ap 29 My 20	Ap 29 My 15	My 4	My 5 My 12	Ap 27 Ap 29	My 29 My 13	My 7 X My 12	My 15 - Ap 26 My 18
Field Sparrow	-	-	Ap 21	-	My 6 - S	My 10 My 12	Ap 8 Fe 11 - S	- Ap 30 - S	- Ap 23 Je 27
Harris' Sparrow	-	W - Mr 30	My 9 My 14	-	W - My 12	W - Ap 28	W - My 12	W - My 13	- W - f W - My 16 A My 13
White-crowned Sparrow	Ap 25	W - My 14	Ap 19 My 17	Ap 29	W - My 12	Fe - Ja 10	Ap 22 My 12	- Mr 3 - My 17	- Ja 4 My 6
White-throated Sparrow	-	Ja 4	Ap 20 My 14	My 4	Ap 20	W - Fe 2	Ap 29 My 12	- W - My 15	- m W - A My 19
Fox Sparrow	-	-	-	-	My 6	-	Ja 21	Ap 13 - Ap 10	- Mr 18 Ap 9
Lincoln's Sparrow	Ap 25	-	Ap 21 My 15	-	-	-	-	Ap 22 - My 13	- Ap 16 A Ap 3 My 17
Swamp Sparrow	-	-	Ap 21 - S	-	-	-	-	-	My 11 - Ap 17 My 25
Song Sparrow	Mr 14 Ap 14	Fe 26 Ap 29	Ap 15 My 14	-	My 12	My 15 Je 26	Ap 29 My 12	W - My 20	- W - m P Ap 11 A
McGowan's Longspur	Mr 18 - S	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Lapland Longspur	-	-	Fe 26 Mr 9	-	-	Mr 3 Mr 4	W - Ja 5	W - Mr 15	- - - W - Fe 2
Chestnut-colored Longspur	Ap 12 - S	-	Mr 30 Ap 25	-	-	-	-	-	-
Snow Bunting	Mr 2	-	-	-	Ja 17	Mr 3 Mr 4	-	Fe 8 Fe 23	- - - Ja 6

THE SEVENTY-EIGHTH ANNUAL MEETING

The Seventy-eighth Annual Meeting was held in Kearney on 19 May 1979, in the Mary Morse Lecture Hall and in the Nebraskan of Kearney State College, with a get-together Friday night at the George Brown home. The afternoon program consisted of:

Birds of the Niobrara River, Prof. Stanley Longfellow, Kearney State College.

Birds of the Bible, Father T.J. Hoffman, S.J., Creighton University

Birds of Crescent Lake National Wildlife Refuge, C. Fred Zeillenmaker, Manager Crescent Lake NWR

Sixty-one people were at the evening banquet, at which Dr. Frances Hamerstrom spoke on "Hawks, Eagles, and Owls".

In the business meeting the dues schedule was changed to: Student, \$3.00; Active, \$7.00; Sustaining, \$15.00; Family Active, \$10.00; Family Sustaining, \$20.00; and Life \$100.00. A Budget Committee, consisting of the President, Vice-president, and Treasurer, was established. The 4-H Camp at Halsey National Forest was selected as the site for the 1980 Annual Meeting. The following officers were elected: Mrs. Ruth C. Green, Bellevue, president; Prof. Stanley Longfellow, Kearney, vice-president; Mrs. Emma Johnson, Omaha, secretary; Mr. Wm. W. Lemburg, Cairo, treasurer; Dr. Neva Pruess, Lincoln, librarian; and Dr. R.G. Cortelyou, Omaha, editor.

The Seventy-fifth Annual Field Days were held 19 and 20 May — Saturday in the southern part of Buffalo County, and Sunday in Kearney and Phelps counties (primarily the Gleason and Funk lagoons). Saturday there were some intermittent light showers, and Sunday there was a chilly breeze, but at the tally in the Lodge at Cottonmill Lake Park 123 species were reported seen, one heard only, and the count would have been greater if any of the *Empidonax* sp. had been identified as other than a Least Flycatcher. The species reported are: Horned, Eared, and Pied-billed Grebes; White Pelican, Double-crested Cormorant; Great Blue and Green Herons; Black-crowned Night Heron, Canada Goose, Mallard, Gadwall, Pintail; Green-winged and Blue-winged Teal; American Wigeon, Northern Shoveler, Wood Duck, Redhead, Canvasback, Lesser Scaup, Bufflehead, Ruddy Duck, Turkey Vulture; Sharp-shinned, Red-tailed, and Swainson's Hawks; American Kestrel, Bobwhite, Ring-necked Pheasant, Sandhill Crane (a lone individual), Sora (heard only), American Coot, Semipalmated Plover, Killdeer, Black-bellied Plover; Upland and Spotted Sandpipers, Lesser Yellowlegs, Willet; Pectoral, White-rumped, Baird's, and Semipalmated Sandpipers; Sanderling, Stilt Sandpiper, Wilson's Phalarope; Ring-billed and Franklin's Gulls, Forster's and Black Terns, Rock and Mourning Doves, Yellow-billed and Black-billed Cuckoos, Burrowing Owl, Common Nighthawk, Chimney Swift, Belted Kingfisher, Common Flicker; Red-bellied, Red-headed, Hairy, and Downy Woodpeckers; Eastern and Western Kingbirds, Great Crested Flycatcher, Eastern Phoebe, Least Flycatcher, *Empidonax* sp., Eastern Wood Pewee, Horned Lark; Tree, Bank, Rough-winged, Barn, and Cliff Swallows; Purple Martin, Blue Jay, Black-billed Magpie, Common Crow, Black-capped Chickadee, House Wren, Gray Catbird, Brown Thrasher, Gray-cheeked Thrush, Eastern Bluebird, Ruby-crowned Kinglet, Starling; Bell's, Red-eyed, and Warbling Vireos; Tennessee, Orange-crowned, Yellow, Yellow-rumped, and Black-poll Warblers; Northern Waterthrush, Common Yellowthroat, House Sparrow, Bobolink, Eastern and Western Meadowlarks, Yellow-headed and Red-winged Blackbirds; Orchard and Northern Orioles, Great-tailed and Common Grackles, Brown-headed Cowbird, Cardinal, Rose-breasted Grosbeak, Indigo Bunting, Dickcissel, Pine Siskin, American Goldfinch, Lark Bunting; Grasshopper, Vesper, Lark, Chipping, Clay-colored, Field, and White-crowned Sparrows.

About 15 of the eastern participants stopped at the Morris farm, near Benedict, on their way home to see the Buff-breasted Sandpipers and Golden Plovers.

1979 FALL FIELD DAY

The 1979 Fall Field Day was held 22 September at Schramm Park State Recreation Area, south of Gretna. The Park includes the former Gretna State Fish Hatchery, which, although not officially so called, is the state's oldest recreation grounds. The day was bright and sunny, and the temperature didn't get over 70° during birding, but the good weather was a disadvantage in that it did not serve to bring the migrants down, nor to hold those that were migrating. Twenty-four people were in attendance, and they tallied 35 species: Great Blue and Green Herons; Sharp-shinned and Red-tailed Hawks; Osprey, Bobwhite, Mourning Dove, Chimney Swift, Belted Kingfisher, Common Flicker; Red-bellied, Red-headed, Hairy, and Downy Woodpeckers; Eastern Phoebe, Eastern Wood Pewee; Rough-winged and Barn Swallows; Blue Jay, Common Crow, Black-capped Chickadee, Tufted Titmouse, White-breasted Nuthatch, House Wren, Gray Catbird, American Robin, Eastern Bluebird, Ruby-crowned Kinglet, Starling, House Sparrow, Common Grackle, Scarlet Tanager, Cardinal, American Goldfinch, and Chipping Sparrow.

BOOK REVIEWS

To A Young Bird Artist: Letters from Louis Agassiz Fuertes to George Miksch Sutton. Commentary by George Miksch Sutton. 1979. University of Oklahoma Press, Norman. ix + 146 pp. $5\frac{3}{4} \times 8\frac{1}{2}$, no index, hardbound. \$9.95.

To twenty-seven letters from Fuertes to Sutton, and two to Sutton's mother, Dr. Sutton has added a commentary which covers his development as a bird artist from before 1908, when he first saw any of Fuertes' drawings, to Fuertes' death in 1927. There are two color plates of Fuertes' drawings; two of Sutton's; and four reproductions of pages from Fuertes' letters which contain sketches. In one place Sutton regrets the lack of a "before" comparison for one of Sutton's drawings which Fuertes had sent back with some additional touches, and the reader may feel the same way because the pictures on which Fuertes comments are not available. But the comments are specific enough to be of value to an artist and also understood by a non-artist. Fuertes continually stresses that the subject must be shown as it appears, which is not necessarily the way it is — the exact color of a feather is modified by light and shade, and by colors reflected from nearby objects. This is a point to be kept in mind when an observed bird and an illustration don't match exactly. It is an interesting book — a sort of artistic autobiography of Sutton, and an example of generosity of an older person to an (at first) unknown striver (and a potential competitor).

— Editor

Guide to the National Wildlife Refuges. Laura and William Riley. 1979. Anchor Press/Doubleday, Garden City, N.Y. xviii + 654 pp. $5\frac{3}{4} \times 8\frac{1}{2}$, indexed, hardbound, \$14.95.

There is a short section on refuges in general and how to see as much as possible at one. Then there are eight sections dealing with a particular region of the contiguous states (with Hawaii included with the West Coast), and one on Alaska. Each section has a map of that particular region of the U.S., with the approximate locations of the refuges shown (the end papers have a similar map of the western or the eastern part of the contiguous states). Each section has a short overview of the region as a whole, a short discussion of each state, "a list of some birds of special interest found in common or abundant status at the refuges of this region", with an indication of when and at what refuges each will be found. The individual refuges are then discussed, in alphabetical order, each account ending with a listing of how to get there, when it is open, what are the best times to visit, what to see, what to do, where to stay, weather notes and what to take and wear, the address to use to get more information, and points of interest nearby. The latter are not confined to birding areas, but good ones are mentioned.

The North Platte Refuge is not shown on any of the maps, but is mentioned under Crescent Lake, which administers it. Valentine Refuge is shown on the maps, but is discussed under Fort Niobrara, which administers it, rather than under "V", but it is indexed (as is North Platte) so it can be found. Hastings (Nebraska) Wetlands Management District and other such districts are each given a short paragraph, but not shown on the maps. This is a very useful "wish book" for anyone planning a trip, either as to route or timing, with a little broader scope (because of the information on the wetlands districts and in the "points of interest") than the title would indicate.

— Editor

The Nesting Season. The Bird Photographs of Frederick Kent Truslow. Commentary by Helen G. Cruickshank. The Viking Press, New York. 136 pp. No index. $9\frac{1}{4} \times 12\frac{1}{4}$ inches, hardbound. \$25.00.

About half of this book consists of color photographs by Truslow, with explanatory captions by Cruickshank, and most of the rest is taken up with a discussion by Cruickshank of the breeding cycle, from before migration through migration, courtship, nest building, incubation, raising the young, to fall migration. Every page or so of this part has a black-and-white photo by Truslow. It is written for the average reader, and is comprehensive, though of course general. The color pictures probably will be the most interesting part for most people. In some cases these are a series of pictures of the same nest — for instance, ten showing the development of young Bald Eagles. For those who want details the location of each of the color photographs is given, the date, and the lens and the stop. There is a foreword by O.S. Pettingill, Jr., and an afterword by Mildred MacCutcheon Truslow, giving information on Truslow's life, with

emphasis on how he became interested in bird photography, his equipment, and how he worked. Anyone who likes good color photographs of birds, particularly in their more hidden moments, will like this book.

— Editor

Penguins, Roger Tory Peterson, Houghton Mifflin Company, Boston, xiv + 238 pp. 64 pages of color photographs (all but seven photographs by the author), 137 marginal black-and-white drawings by the author, indexed, 9 × 11¼ inches, hardbound. \$25.00.

This is really escapist reading (and viewing) for Nebraskans, covering primarily penguins and other sea-birds and sea-creatures, and primarily those south of the equator, mostly pretty far south. There are separate short discussions on each of the 17 species of penguins, and discussions of penguins in general, covering evolution, their adaptations to their environment, how they get along with other penguins in the colony, how they get along with other creatures in the environment (predators or just neighbors), and with man and his handiworks. There is also a discussion of their look-alikes in the northern hemisphere and those birds which occupy the ecological niche in the northern hemisphere that the penguins do in the southern. There is a short (about 2 pages of type) discussion of the photographic equipment he uses, and an annotated bibliography of articles on penguins which he recommends for further reading. Unfortunately, about two pages of type seem to have been dropped from the bibliography between pages 229 and 230, but the part presented (a little more than two pages) still has enough reading to keep one busy for some time. A handsome book, an interesting book, and one which is much wider in scope than the title would seem to indicate. It is written for the interested amateur, but the references include items for the more scientifically minded.

—Editor

SUCCESSFUL GOLDEN EAGLE NEST IN SOUTHWEST NEBRASKA

On 24 May 1979 I was in the vicinity of a large cliff nest, south of Enders Reservoir, when I observed an adult Golden Eagle (*Aquila chrysaetos*) soaring above. When I checked the reportedly inactive nest it became obvious that it was in fact occupied. A 2 June field trip revealed two eaglets, approximately six weeks old, on the nest, in addition to one adult bird perched nearby.

The nest was located on a ledge, about 10 M high on west-facing canyon wall, and only about 1 M below the canyon rim. The nest was well-protected and shaded by the overhanging lip of the canyon. Two alternative cliff nests, much smaller in size, were also in the immediate vicinity. Soapweed (*Yucca glauca*) leaves and stems made up the bulk of identifiable construction components of the nest.

On 10 June the remains of a Bullsnake (*Pituophis melanoleucus*) and an unidentified rodent were seen on the nest, indicating parental care, but no adult birds were seen. On 9 July the nest was found unoccupied, with the exception of some Say's Phoebes that seemed to be the new residents of the cliffs. Subsequent field work, along with reports from Jim Sughrue (Bureau of Reclamation, Reservoir Superintendent) and Mike Stears (McCook H.S. biology teacher) confirmed that at least one and almost certainly both immatures fledged successfully.

—David E. Busch, 407 East "H", McCook, Nebraska 69001

NOTES

ADDITIONAL RECORDS. Nebraska records from "The Changing Seasons" in *American Birds* which were not reported in the *Review* or which significantly extend the period reported in the *Review* include:

White Pelicans in Grant and Cherry cos. 11 July 1973; a Prothonotary Warbler carrying nesting material to a hole in a dead tree in Sarpy Co. 27 July; Swamp Sparrow at Crescent Lake NWR 18 July (27:5:886 ff.).

Horned Grebes in Lancaster Co. 18 November 1973; Wood Ducks in Thomas and Cherry cos. in the fall; Goshawk Lancaster Co. 4 November; Sandhill Cranes in Sarpy Co. in the fall; Northern Phalaropes Cherry Co. 9 September and 12 October; a Jaeger, probably Pomarine, Dawes Co. 7 October; Yellow-bellied Sapsucker Douglas Co. 11 November; Great Crested

Flycatcher Thomas Co. 8-9 September; Golden-winged Warbler Thomas Co. 7 September; Palm Warbler 2 and 6 October, Connecticut Warbler 6 October, Northern Oriole 21 November, Rose-breasted Grosbeak until 22 November, Red Crossbills 3 to 25 November, and White-winged Crossbills 3 November, all in Douglas Co.; Swamp Sparrows Cherry Co. 9 September (28:1:71 ff.).

Snowy Owls Hamilton Co. 6 March and Lancaster Co. 2-8 March 1974; Say's Phoebe Lincoln Co. 23 March; Bohemian Waxwings Cass Co. 3 January; Cardinal Thomas Co. 31 March and Lincoln Co. 17 March; Rose-breasted Grosbeaks at feeder in Douglas and Sarpy cos. until mid-January; Red Crossbill nesting at Crawford, Dawes Co. 24 March. (28:3:658 ff.).

Virginia Rail Sarpy Co. 29 April 1974; two Ruddy Turnstones and six Red Knots Lancaster Co. 18 May; Sanderlings in Platte and Lancaster cos. 18 May; Red-breasted Nuthatches to 23 April in Lancaster Co. and 14 May in Douglas Co.; Connecticut Warbler Sarpy Co. 17 May; Lark Buntings Platte Co. 19 May (28:4:819 ff.).

Two Surf Scoters taken in Knox Co. in early October 1974; a pair of Monk Parakeets in Douglas Co. 29 August; Golden-winged Warbler Lancaster Co. 6 September (29:1:78 ff.).

American Woodcocks Lancaster Co. 20 March 1975; Snowy Owl Otoe Co. Thanksgiving 1974. (29:3:708, 709).

Two hundred fifty Double-crested Cormorants Greeley Co. 21 April 1975; Northern Phalarope Douglas Co. 16 May; Worm-eating Warblers Cherry Co. 2 May (29:4:871 ff.).

Least terns Knox Co. 18 July 1975 (29:5:1001).

Red-throated Loon 2 November 1975, White Pelicans 5 October American Avocets fall (no date), Red Knot 7 September, "Parula Warblers" 30 August and 13 September, Pine Warblers 8 September, Sharp-tailed Sparrows mid-September to mid-October, all in Lancaster Co. (30:1:91 ff.).

Six Oldsquaws 7 December 1975, Swainson's Hawk 20 December, two Snowy Plovers 28 March 1976, Mockinbird 15 and 22 February, all in Lancaster Co. (30:3:735 ff.).

Vermilion Flycatcher Lincoln Co. 27 May 1976 (30:4:861).

Non-breeding Common Loons 19 June and 4 July 1976, White-fronted Goose 25 July, Snow Goose 11 July, American Woodcock 18 July, Caspian Terns all July, Carolina Wren 31 July, all Lancaster Co. (30:5:972 ff.).

Two Whooping Cranes near Gibbon, Buffalo Co., 1 April 1977; Hudsonian Godwits Lancaster Co. spring (no date), Whip-poor-will Saunders Co. 29 May; Blue-gray Gnatcatchers Sarpy Co. 18 to 27 April; Red Crossbills to 19 May in Douglas Co. (31:5:1017 ff.).

DUNLINS, NOT IBIS. The birds seen at Cameron Lake, Rock County, on 3 June 1976 were Dunlins, not White-faced Ibis. (*NBR* 45:15).

TOWER KILLS. A total kill of 80 birds was recorded at the KCNA-TV tower, east of Albion, in 1978. There weren't any real big kills - the biggest was 36 birds on 20 September. The Snow Buntings were all from last February and March; I haven't found any northern birds this winter. I found the following 24 species: Sora, Mourning Dove, Horned Lark, Brown Creeper, House Wren; Black-and-white, Orange-crowned, Nashville, Yellow, Yellow-rumped, and Bay-breasted Warblers; Ovenbird, Northern Waterthrush, Mourning Warbler, Common Yellowthroat, Wilson's Warbler, Yellow-headed Blackbird; Savannah, Tree, Chipping, Clay-colored, Harris', and Lincoln's Sparrows; Lapland Longspur, and Snow Bunting.

— Wayne Mollhoff, Albion

SAUNDERS COUNTY. I saw a Townsend's Solitaire 10 March and a Merlin 24 March, both near the Platte River just east of Morse Bluff.

— Rev. T.A. Hoffman, S.J., Creighton University, Omaha, Nebraska 68178

GYRFALCON; PRAIRIE FALCONS. Joe Shown, Gothenburg, saw a female Gyrfalcon 20 October 1978, about 10 miles east of Grand Island. It was flying south, about 50 feet above the Interstate. And on 22 February 1979 he saw two immature Prairie Falcons, each flying south

across the Interstate. One was a female, seen just east of the Ashland interchange, and the other a male, seen 5 miles west of Lincoln. Prairie Falcons regularly wintered as far east as York, but rarely as far east as Lincoln or Ashland. Perhaps the extreme cold and generally severe winter forced movement out of the normal wintering range.

— Ben G. Ohlander, Omaha

MERLIN. While out on a hike 4 November 1978, near Thompson Creek, southwest of Upland, a bird resembling a Kestrel suddenly appeared above the hills. I noticed that the bird appeared to be somewhat larger than a Kestrel, and fortunately it flew overhead and dipped down into a hollow as it left, so that I was favored with a good view from both above and below, plus a nearby view, giving me an accurate estimation of its size. It was a Merlin. About a year ago I saw one at the north edge of town, here.

— Harold Turner, Minden

HUNGARIAN PARTRIDGES. A flyer with pictures and a description of Hungarian Partridges had been distributed to rural mail carriers, and they had been asked to get a count. Several were seen at different dates before 19 February 1979, when we saw eight of them in the afternoon, which was sunny and 42°. They were in an old bean field about 5 miles north of Scribner. There were reports from other farmers' wives in the area that they saw them, too. In April there was a report of a flock of a hundred or more close to the river.

— Mrs. Eao Carson, Scribner

WOODCOCK NESTING. Gary Lingle who works for the Fish and Wildlife Service, saw an adult Woodcock with young in 1978. The location was on the Platte River, east of Grand Island and near Chapman. He returned to the area this spring and saw Woodcocks do their courtship flights. On the evening of 14 April 1979, with Gary as guide, a group from the Grand Island Audubon Chapter visited the place. Several Woodcocks were heard, and one cooperated very well, uttering his peent call on a road directly in front of the group, and doing his courtship flight overhead. On 30 April the Albert Breiner family and my wife and I were in the area, and the Woodcock was still performing at the same place. No other visit was made.

— Wm. W. Lemburg, Cairo

ROCK WREN IN SARPY COUNTY. At about 9 A.M. on 6 September 1979 Tanya Bray, Sandy Kovanda, and I saw a Rock Wren on the railroad tracks in Fontenelle Forest. It was first seen walking in the rock ballast of the tracks. We noted its habit of running and stopping, then bobbing repeatedly. It stayed on the ground by the ballast. A House Wren pestered it and afforded a good size comparison. The bird was noticeably larger than the House Wren, about 5.5 inches in size. It had a gray back, speckled with white; buffy flanks; throat white, with thin grayish striping; longest tail with buffy tips; red rump; long, slightly curved beak; dark line through the eye, and lighter over the eye. It usually held its tail downward. We watched it for about 15 minutes, until a train came along and scared it away. When we came back at 10:30 A.M. it was again feeding on the tracks, and it was still there at 11:15 A.M. Our observations were from distances of about 20 to 70 feet, with 6× and 8× binoculars. The sighting took place on the morning after a heavy thunderstorm, with winds out of the northwest. Other birders were successful in seeing it in the afternoon, but it was not located the next morning.

—Babs Padelford, 1405 Little John Road, Bellevue, Nebraska 68005.

A 1976 GREAT-TAILED GRACKLE RECORD, AND SOME 1979 RECORDS. Great-tailed Grackles were reported from Adams and Douglas counties in 1977 (NBR 45:18), and in the case of Adams County, non-birders reported that the birds had been there one or two years earlier. A definite pre-1977 report for another area is now available.

Don Studnicka, Manager, and Jim Douglas, Assistant Manager, at the Sacramento-Wilcox Wildlife Management Area (Phelps County) first observed Great-tailed Grackles there in the spring and summer of 1976, near the headquarters building, and have seen them each year since that time. They assume that the birds are nesting there, but don't have firm evidence to support this assumption.

Great-tailed Grackles were seen at the Funk Basin during the 1979 Annual Meeting. Jim Hurt of the Game Commission has supplied additional information on those birds. He first observed them on 26 April 1979, and saw them six additional times during the next two months. Several times he saw two males, and at other times one male, but he couldn't positively state that females

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were present. One male was seen at the Funk Basin in June 1979 by high school students attending a biology institute at Kearney State College.

Mr. Hurt also observed one male Great-tailed Grackle on 25 June 1979, 10.5 miles south of Sutton (Clay County, T6N, R5W, Sec. 35), adjacent to the Hansen Waterfowl Production Area.

In July 1979 my son, Jay Longfellow, saw what he took for a male Great-tailed Grackle near the entrance to Patterson's Harbor at Harlan County Reservoir.

—Stanley Longfellow, *Dept. of Biology, Kearney State College, Kearney, NE 68847*

GREAT-TAILED GRACKLE. I saw a male Great-tailed Grackle north of Hoskins, Wayne County 14, 15, and 17 April, 1979 (when this note was written).

— Ed Brogie, Wayne

MINDEN NOTES. On 19 December 1978, in Kearney County west of Minden, I saw a bird flying across a field. I feel sure it was a Townsend's Solitaire. On the same trip I saw three Prairie Falcons, a few Roughlegs, and several Marsh Hawks. I saw Sandhill Cranes 28 February 1979 and White-fronted Geese 1 March, which was also the day on which some House Finches showed up. They were here at least through the middle of April. My last sighting of Lapland Longspurs was on 7 March, near Shelton, Buffalo County. On 4 April I flushed a small group of Chestnut-collared Longspurs southwest of Upland, Franklin County, near Thompson Creek. There was at least one Sprague's Pipit (the only one I saw during the season) in with them. In the same area I saw a pair of Eastern Bluebirds in early April, and Lark Sparrows later in the month. They apparently nested around here for I have seen and heard them several times, most recently 24 June, northwest of Minden. Likewise, the Upland Sandpipers are nesting as usual, and my cousin, Robert Spicknell, who lives at Holstein, Adams County, reports Burrowing Owls. Perhaps the richest find of all was the observation at close range of a male Black-throated Blue Warbler 5 May, along Thompson Creek. This was on the high side of the creek. A pair of Great Horned Owls nested here earlier, and it was a delight to be able to look down on them from this high bank. In an old timber claim northwest of Minden I saw, in addition to House Wrens, an off-color Red-headed Woodpecker. There seemed to be much gray and/or whitish over the body area, with the red more like rusty or yellowish.

— Harold Turner, Minden

12-1979

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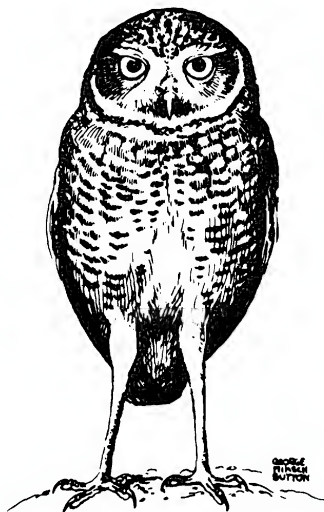
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GREAT GRAY OWL DISTRIBUTION, WINTER 1977-78

Wayne J. Mollhoff

This is a further report on the 1978 specimen of Great Gray Owl (*Strix nebulosa*) previously reported by Lock (NBR 46:16), and on distribution of the species elsewhere on the continent during the winter of 1977-78. The owl reported by Lock was first observed on 31 December 1977 and was shot illegally on 1 January 1978, 2 miles north and 2 miles west of Dixon, Dixon County Nebraska. It was confiscated and held by the Nebraska Game and Parks Commission until they decided on its final disposition. The specimen will remain the property of the state and has since been mounted by Professor A. Jewell Schock and me for display, and it will remain on display at Wayne State College, Wayne, Nebraska. This is the fifth record for this species in Nebraska: it was reported near Omaha 17 December 1893 and a mounted specimen in a saloon at Long Pine was claimed to have been taken in that vicinity (Bruner, Wolcott, and Swenk, 1904); Omaha 4 April 1948 (NBR 16:86); Brady 12 January 1950 (NBR 18:83); and this report.

The following data were recorded for this adult female: ovary — 4×15 mm, total length — 660 mm, wing chord — 430 mm, tail — 320 mm, beak from cere — 26 mm, weight 892 g. These measurements were taken as described in Roberts (1955). Ridgway (1914) gives the following measurements, based on a series of seven females: wing chord — 430-465 (446, avg.), tail 310-347 (323), beak from cere — 24.5-28.5 (26.1). Robert W. Nero and Herbert W.R. Copland (Nero, pers. comm.) are actively studying Great Gray Owls in southeastern Manitoba. They provided the following measurements, based on a series of six birds believed to be females which they banded and released during the winter of 1978-79: wing chord — 425-440 (433), weight — 1300-1500 (1380). Compared to these data, the owl taken in Nebraska was slightly smaller than average and markedly underweight.

The bird was thin but still in fairly good flesh, although there was no visible fat and its stomach was empty. The keel of the sternum protruded 2-4 mm, as compared to 8-10 mm in starving Screech Owls (*Otus asio*) that I have examined.

The bird was moulting the remiges but the molt in all other feather tracts was virtually complete. The feathers of the alula were all new. On both wings primaries nos. 5 and 6 and secondaries nos. 5, 9, 10, 11, and 12 were new, dark gray feathers. The others were faded brownish-gray and well worn. The molt in the greater coverts corresponded with that of the remiges. The rectrices were all new. This wintertime molt is at variance with that reported by Bent (1938:216) and the sequence is somewhat different. Bent states that the wing molt occurs first, followed by the body molt, and that the molt is completed in early December.

Distribution

An attempt was made to determine the extent of extra-limital appearances by Great Gray Owls during the winter of 1977-78, roughly from 1 November 1977 to 31 March 1978. Thirty-eight queries were sent to ornithological societies, individuals, and the Bird Banding Laboratory at Patuxent, Maryland. The area queried covered 28 states north of the 38th parallel and the provinces of Ontario, Manitoba, and Alberta. Twenty-one replies were received from 18 states and provinces.

The Owls were much more visible than usual at several locations within, or along the periphery of, the normal range of the species. Unusually large numbers were noted in southeastern Manitoba (125 sightings from December through February) and in Minnesota along the north shore of Lake Superior, from Duluth to Grand Marais. The North Shore area had an unusually large number of Owls (at least 43 individuals) and they were easily seen, attracting bird watchers from all over the U.S. (Eckert, 1978a, b).

It is possible that these birds traveled only a short distance; one color-marked adult female owl in Manitoba was seen in December 1977, about 20 miles from where it had been banded at its nest. On the other hand, a nestling banded in Manitoba in 1976 was found dead in extreme southeastern Minnesota in January 1977 (Nero, pers. comm.). Many owls may have moved from normal habitat deep in spruce-tamarack bogs to adjacent areas which happened to have roads and thus the Owls became more visible. Nero believes this to have been the case with the Manitoba and Minnesota birds, and that the large number of sightings was the result of "good nesting conditions in the summer of 1977 (with a resultant population increase) and harsh winter conditions and a shortage of small mammals in the spruce-tamarack bogs". In northwestern Montana near Marion, Daniel DeJong (pers. comm.) reported seeing at least 6 owls beginning

in October. He thought the increase in sightings there was possibly the result of an "exceptional mouse population that brought the birds out of the heavy timber and onto the open meadows". Conversely, in Alberta, Robert E. Gehlert (pers. comm.) had only 14 sightings for the winter, fewer than usual. He felt the low number was due to lower than normal snowfall which in turn meant easier hunting.

Long-range winter movements by these Owls tend to be as much to the east as to the south (Bent, 1938). It seems likely that the local population in northeastern Minnesota shifted in this direction until stopped by Lake Superior. This barrier caused a concentration in the immediate area of the lake shore, although a few birds spilled around the lake in both directions and were reported as far as Thunder Bay, Ontario (Goodwin, 1978) and Douglas County, Wisconsin (Follen, in press).

The two Owls reported at Ottawa, Ontario, in February 1978 and Plattsburgh, New York, in January 1978 were slightly outside the usual area of winter wandering but probably at no great distance from timbered tracts similar to habitat within their normal range. Three or 4 birds were observed during the winter in the mountains of northeastern Utah (Anne J. Keene, pers. comm.). This is only the third time they have been recorded in Utah (Behle and Perry, 1975), making their appearance there almost as surprising as in Nebraska. However, the two previous Utah records were in the early 1960s and are closer to the breeding range as it is presently known. The Utah birds could have reached the area where they were seen without crossing unforested areas of any extent.

In view of past records in Minnesota (Wechsler, 1973; Nero, pers. comm.) it seems likely that the Nebraska Owl had its origins in Minnesota or possibly in adjacent Canada. Recent nesting records show that there is a resident population at least as near as Aitkin County, Minnesota (Blanch, 1975), a distance of about 350 miles from the Nebraska specimen locality. Being a bird of the forests, our bird probably kept as much as possible to wooded river valleys in its wandering, possibly via the tributaries of the Minnesota River and the valleys of the Big Sioux and Missouri rivers. Its underweight condition indicates a period of poor hunting, probably due to a combination of unfamiliar habitat and severe weather.

It is interesting to note that in Minnesota and Montana the Great Gray Owls did not appear alone. In Minnesota they were accompanied by the largest number of Boreal Owls (*Aegolius funereus*) ever recorded in the state. In Montana, De Jong states that there was also "an unusual number of Pygmy Owls (*Glucidium gnoma*)". This reinforces Nero's suggestion that it was a prey shortage affecting more than one species of predator that caused the owls to move.

The prey shortage was compounded (or caused) by the weather. Great Gray Owls feed primarily on small mammals — voles, mice, and shrews. These three are all active both above and beneath the snow, but as the snow depth increases a greater percentage of their time is spent beneath the snow, where they are less readily accessible to owls. Weather records from Canada and the U.S. show that in the area between Lake Superior and Lake Winnipeg precipitation was 150-400% of normal (1½-4 times average) during November and December 1977. In addition, in mid-December, southern Manitoba was hit with freezing rain that formed an icy crust on the snow. This made it more difficult both for the small mammals to get to the surface and for the Owls to penetrate it from above. Thus, after mid- or late December, much of the usual food supply was unavailable and the Owls had to move to secure food. This apparently caused the increase in sightings in Manitoba and Minnesota.

A similar situation developed in December in the Rocky Mountains from Utah to the Canadian border, an area which received 200-400% of its normal snowfall. Great Gray and Pygmy Owls were highly visible in northwestern Montana and the former appeared at several places in northeastern Utah, outside their usual haunts.

Contrast these two instances with that what occurred near Edmonton. There the snowfall ranged from 50% of normal in early winter to no more than normal later. Gehlert reported fewer sightings than usual and was probably right in attributing this to the lack of snow.

The winter of 1977-78 brought a number of uncommon visitors to Nebraska. Especially notable were large numbers of Common Redpolls (*Carduelis flammea*) and Snow Buntings (*Plectrophenax nivalis*) (NBR 46:66-85). It is interesting to note that the first sighting of this Owl occurred at the end of December, just before northeastern Nebraska was hit with freezing rain, wind, and several inches of new snow. On the morning of 31 December I picked up 75 dead Lapland Longspurs (*Calcarius lapponicus*) that had struck the KCNA-TV tower, near Albion, Nebraska, during the previous night (NBR 46:23). It may be that the Owl was moving in response to the same weather system that prompted the Longspurs to move.

TABLE I. Great Gray Owl records, winter 1977-78

Alberta, no locale	7(s)*	Dec. '77-Feb. '78	Serr, 1978
Alberta, near Edmonton	14(i)**	winter '77-'78	Gehlert, pers. comm.
B.C., Vernon	1(i)	Feb. '78	Rogers, 1978
Manitoba, SE part	125 (s)	Dec. '77-Feb. '78	Serr, 1978
Minnesota, NE 1/3 (nearest record in Aitken County, about 350 miles from Dixon, Nebraska)	58(i)	Nov. '77-Mar.'78	Eckert, 1978a
Montana, near Marion	6(i)	Oct.'77-Mar.'78	De Jong, pers. comm.
Montana, NW of Kalispell	1(i)	no date	Rogers, 1978
Nebraska, near Dixon	1(i)	Jan. '78	Lock (NBR 46:16)
New York, Plattsburgh	1(i)	Jan. '78	Mack, 1978
New York, Essex (may have been the same individual as at Plattsburgh)	1(i)	Jan. '78	Kibbe, 1978
Ontario, Thunder Bay	5(i)	Feb. '78	Goodwin, 1978
Ontario, Ottawa	1(i)	Feb. '78	Goodwin, 1978
Utah, Bear Lake	1(i)	Jan. '78	Keene, pers. comm.
Utah, W. of Vernal	1(i)	no date	Keene, pers. comm.
Utah, Oakley	2(s)	no date	Keene, pers. comm.
Washington, Addy	1(i)	Feb. '78	Rogers, 1978
Wisconsin, Solon Springs	1(i)	Dec. '77	Follen, in press

*(s) — numbers of sightings reported, includes repeat sightings of the same bird in some cases.

** (i) — number of individual birds reported.

Summary

Great Gray Owls were recorded in increased numbers at several points around the periphery of their normal breeding range and their usual range of winter wandering (see map in Robbins et al, 1966). A few individuals appeared in Utah about 300 miles from their usual range and in Nebraska one was found about 350 miles from the nearest recorded breeding area.

Acknowledgements are due the many people who took time to reply to my letters of inquiry and to the Canadian and U.S. Weather Services for their assistance in obtaining weather records. Special thanks go to my colleague A. Jewell Schock and to Willetta Lueshen, who were instrumental in having the Owl placed at Wayne State College, and to Dr. Robert W. Nero for suggestions and criticism in the preparation of this report.

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— 736 S. Third, Albion, Nebraska 68620

BOOK REVIEWS

A Field Guide to Western Birds' Nests, Hal H. Harrison, xxx + 279 pp., Houghton Mifflin Company, Boston. 256 color photographs, 161 black-and-white. Indexed, hardbound, \$11.95.

This unit of the Peterson Field Guide Series covers 520 species found breeding west of the Mississippi River, though for some species whose nesting territory barely reaches into the covered area the entry is essentially a reference to the author's Eastern Guide. After a short explanation of how to use the book, and of the terms used, the individual species are taken up in AOU Check-list order. The discussion covers breeding range, habitat, nest, eggs, and often further comments under notes. The color plates are in the center of the book, but for those species for which there is a color plate there is a reference in the species account. The author's definition of terms he uses is given just before the index. There is no key to use to go from an unidentified nest to the species; the user has to check the entries for possible species and work by elimination (and hope he has included the right species in those checked). The author does emphasize distinctive points that may confirm an identification, or points that are very similar to those of another species. The book will be useful to anyone who would like to try to identify some nest he has found, or to one who is trying to locate a specific nest, or nests of one or more specific species.

— Editor

Owls, Tony Angell, 80 pp., University of Washinton Press, Seattle. 63 drawings by the author, no index, paper, \$8.95.

This is a paperback issue of a book published hardbound in 1974. The illustrations are the chief attraction (and they are attractive), but it does include comments by the author on owls in general, and then on each of the eighteen species of owls resident in North America. These are not intended as scientific accounts, but are usually anecdotes from his experiences. There is a short (eight items) bibliography for those who want more information. This is a book for those who like owls, or good bird pictures, or particularly, both. (There is a fancy cloth limited edition also available, at \$100.00.)

— Editor

NOTES

WHISTLING SWANS. I saw three Whistling Swans in a basin close to here on 27 March 1979. They were about 150 yards from the road, in the basin weeds and reeds among a lot of ducks. When I first saw the three white birds I thought they must be Snow Geese, as many of them were in the vicinity at the time. But when I put the binoculars on them it was plain to see that they were Swans. I have seen them around here only once before.

— *Lee Morris, Benedict*

GREATER SCAUP. On 21 March 1979 I was observing a flock of about fifty ducks, mostly divers, when I noticed one of the Scaups had a greenish cast to its head. After watching it for some time I decided that it had to be a Greater Scaup. It was among several Lesser Scaup and Ring-necked Ducks for comparison of size and color. The light was excellent and I was very close. Its head was rounder and it looked larger than the Lesser Scaup. I had just seen Greater Scaup in Texas so I was familiar with them.

— *Lee Morris, Benedict*

WHITE-WINGED SCOTERS. George Grube, Blair, and John and Marlene Weber, Omaha, saw two male and one female White-winged Scoters at DeSoto NWR on 31 March 1979. They were diving in the eastern part of the lake, in a large concentration of Ring-billed Gulls. The observation was made at 10 A.M. on a partly cloudy day, about 40°F.

— *Marlene Weber, Omaha*

HAWK CONCENTRATION NEAR ALBION. About 7:15 P.M. on 27 September 1979 I got a phone call that there was a flock of large hawks circling down out of the sky and landing in the trees around a farmstead several miles southwest of Albion. I drove out and found several hundred buteos in a shelterbelt and scattered over about 80 acres of pasture and alfalfa. They were resting and feeding on the ground. Looking into the setting sun made it impossible to identify most of them, but nearly all that I got a good look at were Swainson's Hawks. The exceptions were two Prairie Falcons and a possible Broadwinged Hawk. I got a fairly good count on the largest section of the flock as they went to roost in a shelterbelt after sundown, and estimated the number at 400-600.

The next morning I returned to the area before sunrise and found the hawks scattered out over parts of three sections, feeding on the ground. They appeared to be feeding on the grasshoppers and crickets, which were very numerous in the area. About 9 A.M., as the northwest breeze picked up, they began taking off in groups of 75-200, circling around like leaves in a whirlwind. As they gained altitude they drifted south with the wind at 15-20 mph. By the time they were out of sight they had risen to 500-1000 feet, still circling like a whirlwind. The scattered flock lifted off over a 45-minute period, allowing me to make positive identification of many individuals and a fairly accurate count. A single Red-tailed Hawk was seen moving with the flock; the rest were all Swainson's Hawks. The total count was 600-800 birds.

Later I had other reports of flocks of hundreds of large hawks seen in this area. One was "about 10 years ago", and the other was "many years ago", probably at least 40 years ago.

— *Wayne J. Mollhoff, 736 S. Third, Albion, Nebraska 68620*

(A report of a similar concentration of hawks, on 29 September 1973 at Valentine, Nebraska, is given at *NBR* 42:19.)

On 29 September 1979 John Manning, of Norfolk, and I saw approximately 250-350 hawks, on the ground and on fence posts and in trees. These Swainson's Hawks were seen 2 miles west of Ewing, Nebraska, on U.S. 275. The temperature was around 40° F. and the sky was hazy.

— *Rick Manning, 2909 S. 93rd Plaza, #1, Omaha, Nebraska 68124.*

EAGLE COUNT. On 18 February 1979 an Eagle count was made at the Harlan Reservoir. The sky was clear, wind NW at 10 mph., temperature 46° to 5° F., Observation time was 1:30 to 5:30 P.M. The area covered was the north shore from Methodist Creek to the dam, and below the dam toward Naponee on the Republican River. A total of 170 Bald Eagles were sighted. No

attempt was made to differentiate between mature and immature birds. At one time we had 23 in a single setting of the scope. Participants were Warren and Eileen Paine and George and Marion Brown.

— George W. Brown, Kearney

WHOOPING CRANES. On 9 April 1979 four Whooping Cranes, the first reported in Nebraska in the year, showed up at the Moses Hill area near Funk, but were chased away by Game Commission personnel because of fowl cholera in the area.

A POSSIBLE BLACK RAIL. On 20 September 1979 I was walking through some chest-high vegetation on the shore of Lake 11, trying to flush Marsh Wrens. There was a small area ahead of me which lacked stiff plants, and in which the grass-like plants were matted down. As I got to about two steps from it a bird, which appeared to me as a very short-tailed blackbird, flew over the matted grasses and immediately down on the other side — a flight of from 2 to 3 feet high and 4 to 6 feet long. I tried to flush it again, but was unsuccessful. I was not expecting such a bird, and even if I had seen it longer I had no idea of what to look for. I immediately checked my Peterson, which I had with me, and Robbins as soon as I got back to the car. I had seen a Sora, in the open, at the last stop, and this bird didn't remind me of a Sora, but it seemed larger than the Song Sparrow to which Peterson compares the Black Rail — maybe Cowbird size or so. (But then, I don't usually get so close to a bird, and a Marsh Wren, which I saw shortly afterwards at about the same distance, seemed about as large). After reading the descriptions in the guides I thought I remembered seeing a speckled back. On 4 October (my next visit to the area) I started to check that patch of vegetation, coming in from different direction. Before I got to the patch — I was maybe 20 feet or so from it — a bird flew up and over the top of the vegetation, probably over 50 feet and dropped down. It was a slaty-gray, not the blackbird black of the earlier bird, and seemed noticeably larger. It was mostly end-on, but its dangling legs were yellowish. I went over toward where it went down and a bird (presumably the same one) went up and over the vegetation, but down fairly quickly when it got to the edge of the lake. This time it was at an angle to me, and the lack of a long bill showed it wasn't a Virginia. When I got to the lake edge the bird was, of course, out of sight. This bird was undoubtedly a Sora, and the differences in appearance and in the actions make me pretty sure the first was a Black Rail.

— R. G. Cortelyou, 5109 Underwood Avenue, Omaha, Nebraska 68132

MARSH BIRDS. On 11 May 1979, at the Gleason Lagoon, we saw three Soras, a Virginia and a Yellow Rail, a Woodcock, and an American Bittern. The weather was clear, wind north at 10 mph, temperature 65°F, and the observation time from 7:30 to 9:30 P.M. On 13 May, at the Funk Lagoon, we saw two Soras, a Black Rail, and an American Bittern. This was at about 6:30 P.M. In both cases the observers were Warren and Eileen Paine and George and Marian Brown.

— George W. Brown, Kearney

AGGRESSION IN FALL PECTORAL SANDPIPERS. On 4 August 1979 Alice Rushton, Mrs. Cortelyou, and I saw some Pectoral Sandpipers at a small pond about a mile north of Waterloo and we noticed no unusual behavior. On 18 August Pectorals were still there, but we saw examples of aggressive behavior that I don't remember ever seeing before, and on 25 August Clyde and Emma Johnson saw Pectorals there and saw aggressive behavior that was new to them, too. William J. Hamilton III (*Condor* 61:161-79) reported on aggressive behavior he had seen in post-breeding (migrant) Pectorals at Delta Marsh, Manitoba, one year in the late 1950s. He noted the probability that the birds migrate in stages, staying a while at each landing point, which gives time to establish territories. About a third of the birds at Delta Marsh established territories, and the size of these birds suggested that they were primarily males. In the "central area" or non-territorial birds "the stimulus most likely to provoke an attack was the proximity of another bird". The first situation that attracted my attention was that of two birds on a bare mud flat on the far side of the pond, with no other birds near. They were facing the same way, parallel, with their heads stretched out, and it seemed to us, looking down from an embankment, that they were flat on the ground. Once one bird seemed to squirm down closer to the mud. Hamilton calls this position crouching: "In the crouched position the head and neck are stretched forward over the ground and the ankles may be bent, lowering the body close to or touching the ground". The birds can be parallel, either facing the same way or opposite

directions, or, less commonly, they can be facing each other. What I thought was a "squirm" may well have been what he calls "shaking", and others call feather-settling: "Rapid rotating shakes of the body, closely resembling a similar movement found in most birds, were frequent during preening and after bathing . . . Following territorial encounters shaking was also frequent . . ." I didn't notice the end of this situation. A little later, on the near side of the pond, I saw a couple of birds facing each other and waving their bills. This apparently was "sparring", which Hamilton describes as "birds standing bill to bill swaying their outstretched necks in unison in an arc from side to side". While we watched this sparring I think a couple instances of "supplanting" occurred behind the sparring birds. Supplanting consists of one bird flying or rushing at another which has invaded its territory or has come too close. When the Johnsons were there the next week they saw an example of crouching, but with the birds facing each other. We saw no example of actual fighting, which Hamilton says does occur, nor did we notice some other, less spectacular, movements which he describes (various wing movements and displacement feeding) which could have occurred without attracting our attention. Of the displays we saw Hamilton says: "In territories crouching occurred only at the boundaries, but it was also conspicuous in the non-territorial area" and "Sparring and overt fighting were rare" (in the non-territorial area). Even if we had known what we were seeing we didn't see enough to try to figure out any territories, but from the locations and the general conditions I am inclined to think that these were just reactions of individual birds that felt that they had been approached too closely.

Hamilton says: "Inter specific aggression was noted regularly but it was less frequent and intense than intra specific aggression" and that Killdeer and Solitary Sandpipers were not bothered; interactions with Lesser Yellowlegs were frequent early in the period, but none were seen after 25 July; Solitary Sandpipers might be objected to or tolerated; and Least were frequently evicted. In our case there were several Killdeer at the pond, and at least one representative of each of the other species except Least Sandpiper, but no inter specific encounters were noticed. However, the supplanting attacks were not well seen and one or both might have been inter specific.

— R. G. Cortelyou, Omaha

WHIP-POOR-WILLS. I had Whip-poor-wills, maybe three different ones, at Ponca State Park, Dixon County, 18 July 1979.

— Ruth C. Green, Bellevue

SCISSOR-TAILED FLYCATCHER. Dr. John Janovy, Jr., saw a Scissor-tailed Flycatcher at Kingsley Dam, Keith County, on 11 June 1979.

BLUE JAY PREYING ON HOARY BAT. On the afternoon of 30 June 1966 my attention was drawn to our back lawn in Blair by a prolonged shrill distress call. I rushed to investigate and observed a Blue Jay, heavily laden, fly from a tall (60') American elm tree into a redbud, where it perched. The Blue Jay was frightened off by my approach and left behind its apparently stunned prey—an adult female Hoary Bat (*Lasiurus cinereus*) on the breast of which were hanging two sizeable young bats. The Jay had carried them an estimated 20 yards from an estimated elevation of 45 feet in the elm tree to 6 feet in the redbud.

The bats were collected, weighed, and skinned. The adult female weighed 26.94 grams. One young, a female, weighed 18.41 grams, and the other, a male, weighed 18.72 grams. Thus the total burden carried in the feet of the Jay was 64.07 grams. An adult Blue Jay in our collection (GEG #132, 3 May 1968) weighed 93.4 grams, so this Blue Jay was carrying a burden of about 68.5% of its own weight while in flight.

It is of further interest to note that bats have not been mentioned in the literature as a part of the diet of the Blue Jay. Mice and other small mammals are dietary items of record (Bent).

— George E. Grube, Dana College, Blair

(Victor H. Cahalane's *Mammals of North America*, p. 131, does say "One bat is known to have fought off a blue jay with teeth, wings and hisses." The kind of bat is not indicated. *Editor*.)

TOWNSEND'S SOLITAIRES IN SIOUX COUNTY. On 20 July 1979 students of a biology institute under the sponsorship of Kearney State College were hiking in the Pine Ridge directly west of the campground at Gilbert Baker Special Use Area in Monroe Canyon. Members of the

group included Teri Tallant of California, Bob Williams of Maryland, Joe Hopkins of Omaha, Stan Longfellow of Kearney, and me. We observed one juvenile and one adult Townsend's Solitaire at close range with ample time for seeing details and comparing them with pictures and text of *Birds of North America* (Robbins et al.) The juvenile had a white eye-ring, slightly notched tail, and mottled breast. The wing patch was not well-defined as it is in the adult, but the outer tail feathers were whitish. The adult had the eye-ring, buffy wing patch, and white outer tail feathers. We feel that there was no mistake in identification of the birds. One adult was seen in the same area on 18 July by another group of students. The most recent account of the species (Johnsgard, *NBR* 47:11) indicated some doubt on the breeding status of the species in Nebraska. While these birds may have moved in from the Black Hills following nesting, I hope that others will make an effort to cover this area next summer to see if we do, indeed, keep Townsend's Solitaire on our list of breeding birds.

— Twile Fickel, Gresham

MELANISTIC HOUSE SPARROWS. From 18 January 1979 to early March the Somerhalders, North Platte, had two black sparrow-sized birds at their feeder. The first two weeks they were usually seen together, but after that it wasn't uncommon to see only one. They would usually wait until there was a crowd around before they came to the feeder, but sometimes were the last to leave when the birds were frightened away. Color pictures (several) of the birds were shown to speakers at the Wilson Ornithological Society meeting who had talked on sparrows, and to others in attendance, and it was the consensus that they were melanistic House Sparrows.

ODD SLATE-COLORED JUNCO. I have banded over 200 Slate-colored Juncos this winter. On 27 March 1979 I took one out of my nets, set up in my yard, that was unlike any I have ever seen before. This Junco had very prominent white eye rings, much like those of a Townsend's Solitaire. These eye rings were not white flesh, but tiny white feathers that completely encircled the eye. There were also a few white feathers in the dark part under the throat. Otherwise there were no other marks any different from any other Slate-colored Junco. At the Omaha meeting of the Wilson Ornithological Society I found some other bird-banders who had netted similar Juncos, and I was told that this was a type of symmetrical albinism.

— Ruth Green, Bellevue

LITTER AND WILDLIFE. In the fall of 1978 Shirley, Tom, and I had a very interesting and unusual experience at Lake McConaughy. We were driving on a hard-surfaced road a little before sunset, after a storm had passed. I noticed what appeared to be a can going down the middle of the road. This seemed a bit unusual as I had never seen a live can before, so I stopped and backed up for a better look. It was a beer can, and it would go a ways and then rise up and down and go again. As I approached I could see in the dusk that a fairly large bullsnake had its head caught in the hole in the top of the can. I tried unsuccessfully to pull its head loose but it was really lodged tight. Finally I opened the hole enough with a pair of pliers to set the snake free, and it immediately went under the car. I couldn't understand why a snake would try to get into such a can unless it had acquired a taste for beer. Then I noticed a nose come peeking very slowly out of the can. As it came out a little farther I could see that it was a little field mouse. It was too frightened to come out of the can, and I couldn't even shake it out until I enlarged the hole a lot more. When I finally did manage to shake it out, would you believe it ran straight under the car and directly over the top of the snake? The snake ignored it this time. I suppose the snake was as scared of us as the mouse was of it. As it was, both the snake and the mouse lived, but if I hadn't stopped to investigate both would have died, trapped in the can. We had no flash bulbs, so the pictures we took were too dark to show well, but the people at the Kearney meeting seemed to enjoy them.

— Lee Morris, Benedict

1978 NEBRASKA NESTING SURVEY. The data for this Survey have been misplaced. It will be printed when they are located.

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